



AN ACT REVISING IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICE REQUIREMENTS; AMENDING SECTIONS 61-5-208, 61-8-442, AND 61-8-733, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 61-5-208, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-5-208. Period of suspension or revocation -- limitation on issuance of probationary license -- notation on driver's license. (1) The department may not suspend or revoke a driver's license or privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways, except as permitted by law.

(2) (a) Except as provided in 61-2-302, a person whose license or privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways has been suspended or revoked may not have the license, endorsement, or privilege renewed or restored until the revocation or suspension period has been completed.

(b) When a person is convicted or forfeits bail or collateral not vacated for a first offense of operating or being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or any drug or a combination of alcohol or drugs or for a first offense of operation of a motor vehicle by a person with alcohol concentration of 0.08 or more, the department shall, upon receiving a report of conviction or forfeiture of bail or collateral not vacated, suspend the driver's license or driving privilege of the person for a period of 6 months. Upon receiving a report of a conviction or forfeiture of bail or collateral for a second, third, or subsequent offense within 5 years of the first offense, the department shall suspend the license or driving privilege of the person for a period of 1 year and may not issue a probationary license during the period of suspension unless the person completes at least 45 days of the 1-year suspension and the report of conviction includes a recommendation from the court that a probationary driver's license be issued subject to the requirements of 61-8-442. If the 1-year suspension period passes and the person has not completed a chemical dependency education course, treatment, or both, as ordered by the sentencing court, the license suspension remains in effect until the course, treatment, or both, are completed.

(c) For the purposes of subsection (2)(b), a person is considered to have committed a second, third, or

subsequent offense if fewer than 5 years have passed between the date of an offense that resulted in a prior conviction and the date of the offense that resulted in the most recent conviction.

(3) (a) Except as provided in subsection (3)(b), the period of suspension or revocation for a person convicted of any offense that makes mandatory the suspension or revocation of the person's driver's license commences from the date of conviction or forfeiture of bail.

(b) A suspension commences from the last day of the prior suspension or revocation period if the suspension is for a conviction of driving with a suspended or revoked license.

(4) If a person is convicted of a violation of 61-8-401 or 61-8-406 while operating a commercial motor vehicle, the department shall suspend the person's driver's license as provided in 61-8-802.

(5) (a) A driver's license that is issued after a license revocation to a person described in subsection (5)(b) must be clearly marked with a notation that conveys the term of the person's probation restrictions.

(b) The provisions of subsection (5)(a) apply to a license issued to a person for whom a court has reported a felony conviction under 61-8-731, the judgment for which has as a condition of probation that the person may not operate a motor vehicle unless:

- (i) operation is authorized by the person's probation officer; or
- (ii) a motor vehicle operated by the person is equipped with an ignition interlock device."

Section 2. Section 61-8-442, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-8-442. Driving under influence of alcohol or drugs -- driving with excessive alcohol concentration -- ignition interlock device. (1) In addition to the punishments provided in 61-8-714 and 61-8-722, regardless of disposition and if a probationary license is recommended by the court, the court may, for a person convicted of a first offense under 61-8-401 or 61-8-406, restrict the person to driving only a motor vehicle equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device during the probationary period and require the person to pay the reasonable cost of leasing, installing, and maintaining the device.

(2) If a person is convicted of a second or subsequent violation of 61-8-401 or 61-8-406, in addition to the punishments provided in 61-8-714 and 61-8-722, regardless of disposition, the court shall:

(a) if recommending that a probationary license be issued to the person, restrict the person to driving only a motor vehicle equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device during the probationary period and require the person to pay the reasonable cost of leasing, installing, and maintaining the device; or

(b) order that each motor vehicle owned by the person at the time of the offense be ~~either:~~
~~— (a) seized and subjected to the forfeiture procedure provided under 61-8-421; or,~~
~~(b) during the 12-month period beginning with the end of the period of driver's license revocation,~~
~~equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device and require the person to pay the reasonable cost of leasing,~~
~~installing, and maintaining the device.~~

(3) Any restriction imposed under this section must be included in a report of the conviction made by the court to the department in accordance with 61-11-101 and placed upon the person's driving record maintained by the department in accordance with 61-11-102.

(4) The duration of a restriction imposed under this section must be monitored by the department."

Section 3. Section 61-8-733, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-8-733. Driving under influence of alcohol or drugs -- driving with excessive alcohol concentration -- forfeiture of vehicle. (1) On the second or subsequent conviction of a violation of 61-8-401 or 61-8-406 or a second or subsequent conviction under 61-5-212 when the reason for the suspension or revocation was that the person was convicted of a violation of 61-8-401 or 61-8-406 or a similar offense under the laws of any other state or the suspension was under 61-8-402 or 61-8-409 or a similar law of any other state for refusal to take a test for alcohol or drugs requested by a peace officer who believed that the person might be driving under the influence, the court, in addition to the punishments provided in 61-5-212, 61-8-714, and 61-8-722 and any other penalty imposed by law, shall:

(a) if recommending that a probationary license be issued to the person, restrict the person to driving only a motor vehicle equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device during the probationary period and require the person to pay the reasonable cost of leasing, installing, and maintaining the device; or

(b) order that each motor vehicle owned by the person at the time of the offense be either seized and subjected to the procedure provided under 61-8-421 or,
~~— equipped with an ignition interlock device as provided under 61-8-442.~~

(2) A vehicle used by a person as a common carrier in the transaction of business as a common carrier is not subject to forfeiture unless it appears that the owner or other person in charge of the vehicle consented to or was privy to the violation. A vehicle may not be forfeited under this section for any act or omission established by the owner to have been committed or omitted by a person other than the owner while the vehicle was

unlawfully in the possession of a person other than the owner in violation of the criminal laws of this state or the United States.

(3) Forfeiture of a vehicle encumbered by a security interest is subject to the secured person's interest if the person did not know and could not have reasonably known of the unlawful possession, use, or other act on which the forfeiture is sought."

Section 4. Applicability. [This act] applies to offenses committed on or after [the effective date of this act].

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,
HB 0536, originated in the House.

Chief Clerk of the House

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2009.

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2009.

HOUSE BILL NO. 536

INTRODUCED BY MALEK, MENAHAN, HAMILTON, MCALPIN

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