Bill Summary 1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 712
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Committee Substitute (CS)

SB 712 modifies driver license revocation procedures. A person under the age of twenty-one with any alcohol in his or her system or a person with a blood or breath alcohol concentration of 0.08 or more shall have his or her license revoked for a minimum amount of time, but shall have the option to enter the Impaired Driver Accountability Program in lieu of revocation. The fee for entering the program is currently set at \$200.00.

The measure decreases the time period for the first revocation from one year to 180 days and may be modified upon request provided the license in question is a Class D driver license. Any person requesting a sentence modification must submit the request within thirty days after notice of revocation has been served. Persons requesting a sentence modification must install an ignition interlock device for a period of no less than 180 days on the first offense.

The measure also decreases the period of time for a person convicted on a second, similar offense from two years to one year. A person may request the suspension to be modified, but shall be required to install an ignition interlock device. A person convicted a third time shall receive a longer suspension period, increased from two years to three years, but the person may request a modified sentence provided he or she installs an ignition interlock device for a period of no less than three years.

The Department of Public Safety may extend the period of ignition interlock if a person attempts to operate the vehicle while under the influence. The measure creates procedures to refer defendants to a licensed physician for further evaluation and a possible prescription related to medication-assisted treatment for alcohol or opioid dependence.

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