

CHAPTER 169A

DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

169A.01 CITATION; APPLICATION.

Subdivision 1. **Citation.** This chapter may be cited as the Minnesota Impaired Driving Code.

Subd. 2. **Application.** Unless otherwise indicated, the provisions of this chapter apply to any person who drives, operates, or is in physical control of a motor vehicle within this state or on any boundary water of this state. The provisions of this chapter are applicable and uniform throughout the state and in all its political subdivisions and municipalities.

Subd. 3. **Local ordinances.** No local authority may enact or enforce any rule or regulation that conflicts with a provision of this chapter unless expressly authorized to do so in this chapter. Local authorities may adopt traffic regulations that do not conflict with the provisions of this chapter. However, if any local ordinance regulating traffic covers the same subject for which a penalty is provided for in this chapter, the penalty provided for the violation of the local ordinance must be identical to the penalty provided for in this chapter for the same offense.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 1

169A.03 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** (a) As used in this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given.

(b) If a term defined in section 169.01, but not defined in this chapter, is used in this chapter, the term has the meaning given in section 169.01, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Subd. 2. **Alcohol concentration.** "Alcohol concentration" means:

- (1) the number of grams of alcohol per 100 milliliters of blood;
- (2) the number of grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath; or
- (3) the number of grams of alcohol per 67 milliliters of urine.

Subd. 3. **Aggravating factor.** "Aggravating factor" includes:

- (1) a qualified prior impaired driving incident within the ten years immediately preceding the current offense;
- (2) having an alcohol concentration of 0.20 or more as measured at the time, or within two hours of the time, of the offense; or
- (3) having a child under the age of 16 in the vehicle at the time of the offense if the child is more than 36 months younger than the offender.

Subd. 4. **Commercial motor vehicle.** "Commercial motor vehicle" has the meaning given in section 169.01, subdivision 75.

Subd. 5. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of public safety or a designee.

Subd. 6. **Controlled substance.** "Controlled substance" has the meaning given in section 152.01, subdivision 4.

Subd. 7. **Driver.** "Driver" has the meaning given in section 169.01, subdivision 25.

Subd. 8. **Gross misdemeanor.** "Gross misdemeanor" means a crime for which a person may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than one year, or to payment of a fine of not more than \$3,000, or both.

Subd. 9. **Hazardous substance.** "Hazardous substance" means any chemical or chemical compound that is listed as a hazardous substance in rules adopted under chapter 182 (occupational safety and health).

Subd. 10. **Head Start bus.** "Head Start bus" has the meaning given in section 169.01, subdivision 80.

Subd. 11. **Infrared breath-testing instrument.** "Infrared breath-testing instrument" means a breath-testing instrument that employs infrared technology and has been approved by the commissioner of public safety for determining alcohol concentration.

Subd. 12. **Misdemeanor.** "Misdemeanor" means a crime for which a person may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or to payment of a fine of not more than \$700, or both.

Subd. 13. **Motorboat.** "Motorboat" has the meaning given in section 86B.005, subdivision 9.

Subd. 14. **Motorboat in operation.** "Motorboat in operation" does not include a motorboat that is anchored, beached, or securely fastened to a dock or other permanent mooring or a motorboat that is being rowed or propelled by other than mechanical means.

Subd. 15. **Motor vehicle.** "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle that is self-propelled and every vehicle that is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires. The term includes motorboats in operation and off-road recreational vehicles, but does not include a vehicle moved solely by human power.

Subd. 16. **Off-road recreational vehicle.** "Off-road recreational vehicle" means an off-highway motorcycle as defined in section 84.787, subdivision 7; off-road vehicle as defined in section 84.797, subdivision 7; snowmobile as defined in section 84.81, subdivision 3; and all-terrain vehicle as defined in section 84.92, subdivision 8.

Subd. 17. **Owner.** "Owner" has the meaning given in section 169.01, subdivision 26.

Subd. 18. **Peace officer.** "Peace officer" means:

- (1) a state patrol officer;
- (2) University of Minnesota peace officer;
- (3) a constable as defined in section 367.40, subdivision 3;

(4) police officer of any municipality, including towns having powers under section 368.01, or county; and

(5) for purposes of violations of this chapter in or on an off-road recreational vehicle or motorboat, or for violations of section 97B.065 or 97B.066, a state conservation officer.

Subd. 19. **Police officer.** "Police officer" has the meaning given in section 169.01, subdivision 27.

Subd. 20. **Prior impaired driving conviction.** "Prior impaired driving conviction" includes a prior conviction under:

(1) section 169A.20 (driving while impaired); 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving); or 360.0752 (impaired aircraft operation);

(2) section 609.21 (criminal vehicular homicide and injury, substance-related offenses), subdivision 1, clauses (2) to (6); subdivision 2, clauses (2) to (6); subdivision 2a, clauses (2) to (6); subdivision 2b, clauses (2) to (6); subdivision 3, clauses (2) to (6); or subdivision 4, clauses (2) to (6);

(3) Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.121 (driver under influence of alcohol or controlled substance); 169.1211 (alcohol-related driving by commercial vehicle drivers); or 169.129 (aggravated DWI-related violations; penalty);

(4) Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 84.91, subdivision 1, paragraph (a) (operating snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle while impaired); or 86B.331, subdivision 1, paragraph (a) (operating motorboat while impaired); or

(5) an ordinance from this state, or a statute or ordinance from another state, in conformity with any provision listed in clause (1), (2), (3), or (4).

A "prior impaired driving conviction" also includes a prior juvenile adjudication that would have been a prior impaired driving conviction if committed by an adult.

Subd. 21. **Prior impaired driving-related loss of license.** "Prior impaired driving-related loss of license" includes a driver's license suspension, revocation, cancellation, denial, or disqualification under:

(1) section 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving); 169A.50 to 169A.53 (implied consent law); 169A.54 (impaired driving convictions and adjudications; administrative penalties); 171.04 (persons not eligible for drivers' licenses); 171.14 (cancellation); 171.16 (court may recommend suspension); 171.165 (commercial driver's license, disqualification); 171.17 (revocation); or 171.18 (suspension); because of an alcohol-related incident;

(2) section 609.21 (criminal vehicular homicide and injury, substance-related offenses), subdivision 1, clauses (2) to (6); subdivision 2, clauses (2) to (6); subdivision 2a, clauses (2) to (6); subdivision 2b, clauses (2) to (6); subdivision 3, clauses (2) to (6); or subdivision 4, clauses (2) to (6);

(3) Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.121 (driver under influence of alcohol or controlled substance); 169.1211 (alcohol-related driving by commercial vehicle drivers); or 169.123 (chemical tests for intoxication); or

(4) an ordinance from this state, or a statute or ordinance from another state, in conformity with any provision listed in clause (1), (2), or (3).

"Prior impaired driving-related loss of license" also includes the revocation of snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle operating privileges under section 84.911 (chemical testing), or motorboat operating privileges under section 86B.335 (testing for alcohol and controlled substances), for violations that occurred on or after August 1, 1994; the revocation of snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle operating privileges under section 84.91 (operation of snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles by persons under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances); or the revocation of motorboat operating privileges under section 86B.331 (operation while using alcohol or drugs or with a physical or mental disability).

Subd. 22. **Qualified prior impaired driving incident.** "Qualified prior impaired driving incident" includes prior impaired driving convictions and prior impaired driving-related losses of license.

Subd. 23. **School bus.** "School bus" has the meaning given in section 169.01, subdivision 6.

Subd. 24. **Street or highway.** "Street or highway" has the meaning given in section 169.01, subdivision 29.

Subd. 25. **Vehicle.** "Vehicle" has the meaning given in section 169.01, subdivision 2.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 2

169A.05 PARENTHETICAL REFERENCES.

Words set forth in parentheses after references to sections or subdivisions in this chapter are mere catchwords included solely for convenience in reference. They are not substantive and may not be used to construe or limit the meaning of any statutory language.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 3

169A.07 FIRST-TIME DWI VIOLATOR; OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL VEHICLE OR MOTORBOAT.

A person who violates section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) while using an off-road recreational vehicle or motorboat and who does not have a qualified prior impaired driving incident is subject only to the criminal penalty provided in section 169A.25 (first-degree driving while impaired), 169A.26 (second-degree driving while impaired), or 169A.27 (third-degree driving while impaired); and loss of operating privileges as provided in section 84.91, subdivision 1 (operation of snowmobiles or all-terrain vehicles by persons under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances), or 86B.331, subdivision 1 (operation of motorboats while using alcohol or with a physical or mental disability), whichever is applicable. The person is not subject to the provisions of section 169A.275, subdivision 5, (submission to the level of care recommended in chemical use assessment for repeat offenders and offenders with alcohol concentration of 0.20 or more); 169A.277 (long-term monitoring); 169A.285 (penalty assessment); 169A.44 (conditional release); 169A.54 (impaired driving convictions and adjudications; administrative penalties); or 169A.54, subdivision 11 (chemical use assessment); the license revocation sanctions of sections 169A.50 to 169A.53 (implied consent law); or the plate impoundment provisions of section 169A.60 (administrative impoundment of plates).

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 4

169A.09 SANCTION FOR PRIOR BEHAVIOR BASED ON SEPARATE COURSES OF CONDUCT.

Prior impaired driving convictions and prior impaired driving-related losses of license must arise out of a separate course of conduct to be considered as multiple qualified prior impaired driving incidents under this chapter. When a person has a prior impaired driving conviction and a prior impaired driving-related loss of license based on the same course of conduct, either the conviction or the loss of license may be considered a qualified prior impaired driving incident, but not both.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 5

169A.095 DETERMINING NUMBER OF AGGRAVATING FACTORS.

When determining the number of aggravating factors present for purposes of this chapter, subject to section 169A.09 (sanctions for prior behavior to be based on separate courses of conduct), each qualified prior impaired driving incident within the ten years immediately preceding the current offense is counted as a separate aggravating factor.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 6

CRIMINAL PROVISIONS

169A.20 DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED.

Subdivision 1. **Driving while impaired crime.** It is a crime for any person to drive, operate, or be in physical control of any motor vehicle within this state or on any boundary water of this state:

- (1) when the person is under the influence of alcohol;
- (2) when the person is under the influence of a controlled substance;
- (3) when the person is knowingly under the influence of a hazardous substance that affects the nervous system, brain, or muscles of the person so as to substantially impair the person's ability to drive or operate the motor vehicle;
- (4) when the person is under the influence of a combination of any two or more of the elements named in clauses (1), (2), and (3);
- (5) when the person's alcohol concentration at the time, or as measured within two hours of the time, of driving, operating, or being in physical control of the motor vehicle is 0.10 or more;
- (6) when the vehicle is a commercial motor vehicle and the person's alcohol concentration at the time, or as measured within two hours of the time, of driving, operating, or being in physical control of the commercial motor vehicle is 0.04 or more; or
- (7) when the person's body contains any amount of a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II other than marijuana or tetrahydrocannabinols.

Subd. 2. **Refusal to submit to chemical test crime.** It is a crime for any person to refuse to submit to a chemical test of the person's blood, breath, or urine under section 169A.52 (test refusal or failure; revocation of license).

Subd. 3. **Sentence.** A person who violates this section may be sentenced as provided in section 169A.25 (first-degree driving while impaired), 169A.26 (second-degree driving while impaired), or 169A.27 (third-degree driving while impaired).

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 7

169A.25 FIRST-DEGREE DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED.

Subdivision 1. **Degree described.** A person who violates section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) is guilty of first-degree driving while impaired if two or more aggravating factors were present when the violation was committed.

Subd. 2. **Criminal penalty.** First-degree driving while impaired is a gross misdemeanor. The mandatory penalties described in section 169A.275 and the long-term monitoring described in section 169A.277 may be applicable.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 8

169A.26 SECOND-DEGREE DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED.

Subdivision 1. **Degree described.** A person who violates section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) is guilty of second-degree driving while impaired if one aggravating factor was present when the violation was committed.

Subd. 2. **Criminal penalty.** Second-degree driving while impaired is a gross misdemeanor. The mandatory penalties described in section 169A.275 and the long-term monitoring described in section 169A.277 may be applicable.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 9

169A.27 THIRD-DEGREE DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED.

Subdivision 1. **Degree described.** A person who violates section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) is guilty of third-degree driving while impaired.

Subd. 2. **Criminal penalty.** Third-degree driving while impaired is a misdemeanor.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 10

169A.275 MANDATORY PENALTIES.

Subdivision 1. **Second offense.** (a) The court shall sentence a person who is convicted of a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) within ten years of a qualified prior impaired driving incident to either:

(1) a minimum of 30 days of incarceration, at least 48 hours of which must be served consecutively in a local correctional facility; or

(2) eight hours of community work service for each day less than 30 days that the person is ordered to serve in a local correctional facility.

Notwithstanding section 609.135 (stay of imposition or execution of sentence), the penalties in this paragraph must be executed, unless the court departs from the mandatory minimum sentence under paragraph (b) or (c).

(b) Prior to sentencing, the prosecutor may file a motion to have a defendant described in paragraph (a) sentenced without regard to the mandatory minimum sentence established by that paragraph. The motion must be accompanied by a statement on the record of the reasons for it. When presented with the prosecutor's motion and if it finds that substantial mitigating factors exist, the court shall sentence the defendant without regard to the mandatory minimum sentence established by paragraph (a).

(c) The court may, on its own motion, sentence a defendant described in paragraph (a) without regard to the mandatory minimum sentence established by that paragraph if it finds that substantial mitigating factors exist and if its sentencing departure is accompanied by a statement on the record of the reasons for it. The court also may sentence the defendant without regard to the mandatory minimum sentence established by paragraph (a) if the defendant is sentenced to probation and ordered to participate in a program established under section 169A.74 (pilot programs of intensive probation for repeat DWI offenders).

(d) When any portion of the sentence required by paragraph (a) is not executed, the court should impose a sentence that is proportional to the extent of the offender's prior criminal and moving traffic violation record. Any sentence required under paragraph (a) must include a mandatory sentence that is not subject to suspension or a stay of imposition or execution, and that includes incarceration for not less than 48 consecutive hours or at least 80 hours of community work service.

Subd. 2. **Third offense.** (a) The court shall sentence a person who is convicted of a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) within ten years of the first of two qualified prior impaired driving incidents to either:

(1) a minimum of 90 days of incarceration, at least 30 days of which must be served consecutively in a local correctional facility; or

(2) a program of intensive supervision of the type described in section 169A.74 (pilot programs of intensive probation for repeat DWI offenders) that requires the person to consecutively serve at least six days in a local correctional facility.

(b) The court may order that the person serve not more than 60 days of the minimum penalty under paragraph (a), clause (1), on home detention or in an intensive probation program described in section 169A.74.

(c) Notwithstanding section 609.135, the penalties in this subdivision must be imposed and executed.

Subd. 3. **Fourth offense.** (a) The court shall sentence a person who is convicted of a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) within ten years of the first of three qualified prior impaired driving incidents to either:

(1) a minimum of 180 days of incarceration, at least 30 days of which must be served consecutively in a local correctional facility; or

(2) a program of intensive supervision of the type described in section 169A.74 (pilot programs of intensive probation for repeat DWI offenders) that requires the person to consecutively serve at least six days in a local correctional facility.

(b) The court may order that the person serve not more than 150 days of the minimum penalty under paragraph (a), clause (1), on home detention or in an intensive probation program described in section 169A.74. Notwithstanding section 609.135, the penalties in this subdivision must be imposed and executed.

Subd. 4. Fifth offense or more. (a) The court shall sentence a person who is convicted of a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) within ten years of the first of four or more qualified prior impaired driving incidents to either:

(1) a minimum of one year of incarceration, at least 60 days of which must be served consecutively in a local correctional facility; or

(2) a program of intensive supervision of the type described in section 169A.74 (pilot programs of intensive probation for repeat DWI offenders) that requires the person to consecutively serve at least six days in a local correctional facility.

(b) The court may order that the person serve the remainder of the minimum penalty under paragraph (a), clause (1), on intensive probation using an electronic monitoring system or, if such a system is unavailable, on home detention. Notwithstanding section 609.135, the penalties in this subdivision must be imposed and executed.

Subd. 5. Level of care recommended in chemical use assessment. In addition to other penalties required under this section, the court shall order a person to submit to the level of care recommended in the chemical use assessment conducted under section 169A.70 (alcohol safety program; chemical use assessments) if the person is convicted of violating section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) while having an alcohol concentration of 0.20 or more as measured at the time, or within two hours of the time, of the offense or if the violation occurs within ten years of one or more qualified prior impaired driving incidents.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 11

169A.277 LONG-TERM MONITORING.

Subdivision 1. Applicability. This section applies to a person convicted of:

(1) a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) within ten years of the first of two or more prior impaired driving convictions;

(2) a violation of section 169A.20, if the person is under the age of 19 years and has previously been convicted of violating section 169A.20 or Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.121 (driver under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance); or

(3) a violation of section 169A.20, while the person's driver's license or driving privileges have been canceled under section 171.04, subdivision 1, clause (10) (persons not eligible for drivers' licenses, inimical to public safety).

Subd. 2. Monitoring required. When the court sentences a person described in subdivision 1 to a stayed sentence and when electronic monitoring equipment is available to the court, the court shall require that the person participate in a program of electronic alcohol monitoring in addition to any other conditions of probation or jail time it imposes. During the first one-third of the person's probationary term, the electronic alcohol monitoring must be continuous and involve measurements of the person's alcohol concentration at least three times a day. During the remainder of the person's probationary term, the electronic alcohol monitoring may be intermittent, as determined by the court.

Subd. 3. Reimbursement. The court shall require partial or total reimbursement from the person for the cost of the electronic alcohol monitoring, to the extent the person is able to pay.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 12

169A.28 CONSECUTIVE SENTENCES.

Subdivision 1. **Mandatory consecutive sentences.** The court shall impose consecutive sentences when it sentences a person for:

(1) violations of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) arising out of separate courses of conduct;

(2) a violation of section 169A.20 when the person, at the time of sentencing, is on probation for, or serving, an executed sentence for a violation of section 169A.20 or Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.121 (driver under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance) or 169.129 (aggravated DWI-related violations; penalty), and the prior sentence involved a separate course of conduct; or

(3) a violation of section 169A.20 and another offense arising out of a single course of conduct that is listed in subdivision 2, paragraph (e), when the person has five or more qualified prior impaired driving incidents within the past ten years.

Subd. 2. **Permissive consecutive sentences; multiple offenses.** (a) When a person is being sentenced for a violation of a provision listed in paragraph (e), the court may sentence the person to a consecutive term of imprisonment for a violation of any other provision listed in paragraph (e), notwithstanding the fact that the offenses arose out of the same course of conduct, subject to the limitation on consecutive sentences contained in section 609.15, subdivision 2, and except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c).

(b) When a person is being sentenced for a violation of section 171.20 (operation after revocation, suspension, cancellation, or disqualification), 171.24 (driving without valid license), or 171.30 (violation of condition of limited license), the court may not impose a consecutive sentence for another violation of a provision in chapter 171 (drivers' licenses and training schools).

(c) When a person is being sentenced for a violation of section 169.791 (failure to provide proof of insurance) or 169.797 (failure to provide vehicle insurance), the court may not impose a consecutive sentence for another violation of a provision of sections 169.79 to 169.7995.

(d) This subdivision does not limit the authority of the court to impose consecutive sentences for crimes arising on different dates or to impose a consecutive sentence when a person is being sentenced for a crime and is also in violation of the conditions of a stayed or otherwise deferred sentence under section 609.135 (stay of imposition or execution of sentence).

(e) This subdivision applies to misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor violations of the following if the offender has two or more prior impaired driving convictions within the past ten years:

- (1) section 169A.20 (driving while impaired);
- (2) section 169.791;
- (3) section 169.797;
- (4) section 171.20, subdivision 2 (operation after revocation, suspension, cancellation, or disqualification);
- (5) section 171.24; and
- (6) section 171.30.

Subd. 3. **Permissive consecutive sentences; previous offenses.** The court may order that the sentence imposed for a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) run consecutively to a previously imposed misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, or felony sentence for a violation other than section 169A.20.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 13

169A.283 STAY OF EXECUTION OF SENTENCE.

Subdivision 1. **Stay authorized.** Except as otherwise provided in section 169A.275 (mandatory penalties), when a court sentences a person convicted of a violation of

section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), the court may stay execution of the criminal sentence described in section 169A.25 (first-degree driving while impaired), 169A.26 (second-degree driving while impaired), or 169A.27 (third-degree driving while impaired), on the condition that the convicted person submit to the level of care recommended in the chemical use assessment report required under section 169A.70 (alcohol safety programs; chemical use assessments). If the court does not order a level of care in accordance with the assessment report recommendation as a condition of a stay of execution, it shall state on the record its reasons for not following the assessment report recommendation.

Subd. 2. Manner and length of stay, required report. A stay of execution must be in the manner provided in section 609.135 (stay of imposition or execution of sentence). The length of stay is governed by section 609.135, subdivision 2. The court shall report to the commissioner any stay of execution of sentence granted under this section.

Subd. 3. No stay of license revocation. The court may not stay the execution of the driver's license revocation provisions of section 169A.54 (impaired driving convictions and adjudications; administrative penalties).

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 14

169A.284 CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY ASSESSMENT CHARGE; SURCHARGE.

Subdivision 1. When required. (a) When a court sentences a person convicted of an offense enumerated in section 169A.70, subdivision 2 (chemical use assessment; requirement; form), it shall impose a chemical dependency assessment charge of \$125. A person shall pay an additional surcharge of \$5 if the person is convicted of a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) within five years of a prior impaired driving conviction or a prior conviction for an offense arising out of an arrest for a violation of section 169A.20 or Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.121 (driver under influence of alcohol or controlled substance) or 169.129 (aggravated DWI-related violations; penalty). This section applies when the sentence is executed, stayed, or suspended. The court may not waive payment or authorize payment of the assessment charge and surcharge in installments unless it makes written findings on the record that the convicted person is indigent or that the assessment charge and surcharge would create undue hardship for the convicted person or that person's immediate family.

(b) The chemical dependency assessment charge and surcharge required under this section are in addition to the surcharge required by section 357.021, subdivision 6 (surcharges on criminal and traffic offenders).

Subd. 2. Distribution of money. The county shall collect and forward to the commissioner of finance \$25 of the chemical dependency assessment charge and the \$5 surcharge, if any, within 60 days after sentencing or explain to the commissioner in writing why the money was not forwarded within this time period. The commissioner shall credit the money to the general fund. The county shall collect and keep \$100 of the chemical dependency assessment charge.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 15

169A.285 PENALTY ASSESSMENT.

Subdivision 1. Authority; amount. When a court sentences a person who violates section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) while having an alcohol concentration of 0.20 or more as measured at the time, or within two hours of the time, of the violation, the court may impose a penalty assessment of up to \$1,000. The court may impose this assessment in addition to any other penalties or charges authorized under law.

Subd. 2. Assessment distribution. Money collected under this section must be distributed as follows:

(1) if the arresting officer is an employee of a political subdivision, the assessment must be forwarded to the treasury of the political subdivision for use in enforcement, training, and education activities related to driving while impaired; or

(2) if the arresting officer is an employee of the state, the assessment must be forwarded to the state treasury and credited to the general fund.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 16

169A.31 ALCOHOL-RELATED SCHOOL BUS OR HEAD START BUS DRIVING.

Subdivision 1. **Crime described.** It is a crime for any person to drive, operate, or be in physical control of any class of school bus or Head Start bus within this state when there is physical evidence present in the person's body of the consumption of any alcohol.

Subd. 2. **Gross misdemeanor alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving.** A person who violates subdivision 1 is guilty of gross misdemeanor alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving if:

(1) the violation occurs while a child under the age of 16 is in the vehicle, if the child is more than 36 months younger than the violator; or

(2) the violation occurs within ten years of a qualified prior impaired driving incident.

Subd. 3. **Misdemeanor alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving.** Except as provided in subdivision 2, a person who violates subdivision 1 is guilty of misdemeanor alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 17

169A.33 UNDERAGE DRINKING AND DRIVING.

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** As used in this section, "motor vehicle" does not include motorboats in operation or off-road recreational vehicles.

Subd. 2. **Crime described.** It is a crime for a person under the age of 21 years to drive, operate, or be in physical control of a motor vehicle while consuming alcoholic beverages, or after having consumed alcoholic beverages while there is physical evidence of the consumption present in the person's body.

Subd. 3. **Criminal penalty.** A person who violates subdivision 2 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Subd. 4. **Administrative penalty.** When a person is found to have committed an offense under subdivision 2, the court shall notify the commissioner of its determination. Upon receipt of the court's determination, the commissioner shall suspend the person's driver's license or operating privileges for 30 days, or for 180 days if the person has previously been found to have violated subdivision 2 or a statute or ordinance in conformity with it.

Subd. 5. **Exception.** If the person's conduct violates section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) or 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving), the penalties and license sanctions in those laws or section 169A.54 (impaired driving convictions and adjudications; administrative penalties) apply instead of the license sanction in subdivision 4.

Subd. 6. **Jurisdiction.** An offense under subdivision 2 may be prosecuted either in the jurisdiction where consumption occurs or the jurisdiction where evidence of consumption is observed.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 18

169A.35 OPEN BOTTLE LAW.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** As used in this section:

(1) "motor vehicle" does not include motorboats in operation or off-road recreational vehicles; and

(2) "possession" means either that the person had actual possession of the bottle or receptacle or that the person consciously exercised dominion and control over the bottle or receptacle.

Subd. 2. **Drinking and consumption; crime described.** It is a crime for a person to drink or consume an alcoholic beverage, distilled spirit, or 3.2 percent malt liquor in a motor vehicle when the vehicle is upon a street or highway.

Subd. 3. **Possession; crime described.** It is a crime for a person to have in possession, while in a private motor vehicle upon a street or highway, any bottle or receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage, distilled spirit, or 3.2 percent malt liquor that has been opened, or the seal broken, or the contents of which have been partially removed.

Subd. 4. **Liability of nonpresent owner; crime described.** It is a crime for the owner of any private motor vehicle or the driver, if the owner is not present in the motor vehicle, to keep or allow to be kept in a motor vehicle when the vehicle is upon a street or highway any bottle or receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage, distilled spirit, or 3.2 percent malt liquor that has been opened, or the seal broken, or the contents of which have been partially removed.

Subd. 5. **Criminal penalty.** A person who violates subdivisions 2 to 4 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Subd. 6. **Exceptions.** (a) This section does not prohibit the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by passengers in:

(1) a bus that is operated by a motor carrier of passengers, as defined in section 221.011, subdivision 48; or

(2) a vehicle providing limousine service as defined in section 221.84, subdivision 1.

(b) Subdivisions 3 and 4 do not apply to a bottle or receptacle that is in the trunk of the vehicle if it is equipped with a trunk, or that is in another area of the vehicle not normally occupied by the driver and passengers if the vehicle is not equipped with a trunk. However, a utility compartment or glove compartment is deemed to be within the area occupied by the driver and passengers.

History: 2000 c 426 s 22-24; 2000 c 478 art 1 s 19; art 2 s 7

169A.37 LICENSE PLATE IMPOUNDMENT VIOLATION CRIMES.

Subdivision 1. **Crime described.** It is a crime for a person to:

(1) fail to comply with an impoundment order under section 169A.60 (administrative plate impoundment);

(2) file a false statement under section 169A.60, subdivision 7 or 8;

(3) operate a self-propelled motor vehicle on a street or highway when the vehicle is subject to an impoundment order issued under section 169A.60; or

(4) fail to notify the commissioner of the impoundment order when requesting new plates.

Subd. 2. **Criminal penalty.** A person who violates subdivision 1 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 20

PROCEDURAL PROVISIONS

169A.40 ARREST POWERS.

Subdivision 1. **Probable cause arrest.** A peace officer may lawfully arrest a person for violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving), or 169A.33 (underage drinking and driving), without a warrant upon probable cause, without regard to whether the violation was committed in the officer's presence.

Subd. 2. **Fresh pursuit.** When a peace officer has probable cause to believe that a person is driving or operating a motor vehicle in violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving), or 169A.33 (underage drinking and driving) and before a stop or arrest can be made the person escapes from the geographical limits of the officer's jurisdiction, the officer in fresh pursuit of the person may stop or arrest the person in another jurisdiction within this state and may exercise the powers and perform the duties of a peace officer under this chapter. An officer acting in fresh pursuit pursuant to this section is serving in the regular line of duty as fully as though within the officer's jurisdiction.

Subd. 3. **First-degree DWI offenders; custodial arrest.** Notwithstanding rule 6.01 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure, a peace officer acting without a warrant who has decided to proceed with the prosecution of a person for violating section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), shall arrest and take the person into custody if the officer has reason to believe the violation occurred under the circumstances described in section 169A.25 (first-degree driving while impaired). The person shall be detained until the person's first court appearance.

Subd. 4. **Other arrest powers not limited.** The express grant of arrest powers in this section does not limit the arrest powers of peace officers pursuant to sections 626.65 to 626.70 (uniform law on fresh pursuit) or section 629.40 (allowing arrests anywhere in state) in cases of arrests for violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving), 169A.33 (underage drinking and driving), or any other provision of law.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 21

169A.41 PRELIMINARY SCREENING TEST.

Subdivision 1. **When authorized.** When a peace officer has reason to believe from the manner in which a person is driving, operating, controlling, or acting upon departure from a motor vehicle, or has driven, operated, or controlled a motor vehicle, that the driver may be violating or has violated section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving), or 169A.33 (underage drinking and driving), the officer may require the driver to provide a sample of the driver's breath for a preliminary screening test using a device approved by the commissioner for this purpose.

Subd. 2. **Use of test results.** The results of this preliminary screening test must be used for the purpose of deciding whether an arrest should be made and whether to require the tests authorized in section 169A.51 (chemical tests for intoxication), but must not be used in any court action except the following:

- (1) to prove that a test was properly required of a person pursuant to section 169A.51, subdivision 1;
- (2) in a civil action arising out of the operation or use of the motor vehicle;
- (3) in an action for license reinstatement under section 171.19;
- (4) in a prosecution or juvenile court proceeding concerning a violation of section 169A.33 (underage drinking and driving), or 340A.503, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2) (underage alcohol consumption);
- (5) in a prosecution under section 169A.31, (alcohol-related school or Head Start bus driving); or 171.30 (limited license); or
- (6) in a prosecution for a violation of a restriction on a driver's license under section 171.09, which provides that the license holder may not use or consume any amount of alcohol or a controlled substance.

Subd. 3. **Additional tests.** Following the screening test additional tests may be required of the driver pursuant to the provisions of section 169A.51 (chemical tests for intoxication).

Subd. 4. **Consequences of refusal.** The driver who refuses to furnish a sample of the driver's breath is subject to the provisions of section 169A.51 (chemical tests for

intoxication), unless the driver submits to a blood, breath, or urine test to determine the presence or amount of alcohol, controlled substances, or hazardous substances in compliance with section 169A.51.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 22

169A.42 VEHICLE IMPOUNDMENT UNDER ORDINANCE; REDEMPTION.

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** As used in this section, "impoundment" means the removal of a motor vehicle to a storage facility or impound lot as authorized by a local ordinance.

Subd. 2. **Redemption; prerequisites.** If a motor vehicle is impounded by a peace officer following the arrest or taking into custody of a driver for a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), or an ordinance in conformity with it; the impounded vehicle must only be released from impoundment:

(1) to the registered owner, a person authorized by the registered owner, a lienholder of record, or a person who has purchased the vehicle from the registered owner, who provides proof of ownership of the vehicle, proof of valid Minnesota driving privileges, and proof of insurance required by law to cover the vehicle;

(2) if the vehicle is subject to a rental or lease agreement, to a renter or lessee with valid Minnesota driving privileges who provides a copy of the rental or lease agreement and proof of insurance required by law to cover the vehicle; or

(3) to an agent of a towing company authorized by a registered owner if the owner provides proof of ownership of the vehicle and proof of insurance required by law to cover the vehicle.

Subd. 3. **To whom information provided.** The proof of ownership and insurance or, if applicable, the copy of the rental or lease agreement required by subdivision 2 must be provided to the law enforcement agency impounding the vehicle or to a person or entity designated by the law enforcement agency to receive the information.

Subd. 4. **Liability for storage costs.** No law enforcement agency, local unit of government, or state agency is responsible or financially liable for any storage fees incurred due to an impoundment under this section.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 23

169A.43 RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROSECUTION; CRIMINAL HISTORY INFORMATION.

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** As used in this section, "impaired driving offense" includes violations of sections 169A.20 to 169A.33.

Subd. 2. **Prosecution.** The attorney in the jurisdiction in which an impaired driving offense occurred who is responsible for prosecution of misdemeanor-level impaired driving offenses is also responsible for prosecution of gross misdemeanor-level impaired driving offenses.

Subd. 3. **Venue.** (a) A violation of section 169A.20, subdivision 2 (refusal to submit to chemical test) may be prosecuted either in the jurisdiction where the arresting officer observed the defendant driving, operating, or in control of the motor vehicle or in the jurisdiction where the refusal occurred.

(b) An underage drinking and driving offense may be prosecuted as provided in section 169A.33, subdivision 6 (underage drinking and driving).

Subd. 4. **Criminal history information.** When an attorney responsible for prosecuting impaired driving offenses requests criminal history information relating to prior impaired driving convictions from a court, the court shall furnish the information without charge.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 24

169A.44 CONDITIONAL RELEASE.

(a) This section applies to a person charged with:

(1) a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) within ten years of the first of two or more prior impaired driving convictions;

(2) a violation of section 169A.20, if the person is under the age of 19 years and has previously been convicted of violating section 169A.20 or Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.121 (driver under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance);

(3) a violation of section 169A.20, while the person's driver's license or driving privileges have been canceled under section 171.04, subdivision 1, clause (10) (persons not eligible for drivers' licenses, inimical to public safety); or

(4) a violation of section 169A.20 by a person having an alcohol concentration of 0.20 or more as measured at the time, or within two hours of the time, of the offense.

(b) Unless maximum bail is imposed under section 629.471, a person described in paragraph (a) may be released from detention only if the person agrees to:

(1) abstain from alcohol; and

(2) submit to a program of electronic alcohol monitoring, involving at least daily measurements of the person's alcohol concentration, pending resolution of the charge.

Clause (2) applies only when electronic alcohol monitoring equipment is available to the court. The court shall require partial or total reimbursement from the person for the cost of the electronic alcohol monitoring, to the extent the person is able to pay.

(c) Unless maximum bail is imposed under section 629.471, subdivision 2, a person charged with violating section 169A.20 within ten years of the first of three or more prior impaired driving convictions may be released from detention only if the following conditions are imposed in addition to the condition imposed in paragraph (b), if applicable, and any other conditions of release ordered by the court:

(1) the impoundment of the registration plates of the vehicle used to commit the violation, unless already impounded;

(2) if the vehicle used to commit the violation was an off-road recreational vehicle or a motorboat, the impoundment of the off-road recreational vehicle or motorboat;

(3) a requirement that the person report weekly to a probation agent;

(4) a requirement that the person abstain from consumption of alcohol and controlled substances and submit to random alcohol tests or urine analyses at least weekly; and

(5) a requirement that, if convicted, the person reimburse the court or county for the total cost of these services.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 25

169A.45 EVIDENCE.

Subdivision 1. Alcohol concentration evidence. Upon the trial of any prosecution arising out of acts alleged to have been committed by any person arrested for violating section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) or 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving), the court may admit evidence of the presence or amount of alcohol in the person's blood, breath, or urine as shown by an analysis of those items. In addition, in a prosecution for a violation of section 169A.20, the court may admit evidence of the presence or amount of controlled substances or hazardous substances in the person's blood, breath, or urine as shown by an analysis of those items.

Subd. 2. Relevant evidence of impairment. For the purposes of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), evidence that there was at the time an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more is relevant evidence in indicating whether or not the person was under the influence of alcohol.

Subd. 3. Evidence of refusal. Evidence of the refusal to take a test is admissible into evidence in a prosecution under section 169A.20 (driving while impaired).

Subd. 4. **Other competent evidence admissible.** The preceding provisions do not limit the introduction of any other competent evidence bearing upon the question of whether the person violated section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) or 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus or Head Start bus driving), including tests obtained more than two hours after the alleged violation and results obtained from partial tests on an infrared breath-testing instrument. A result from a partial test is the measurement obtained by analyzing one adequate breath sample, as described in section 169A.51, subdivision 5, paragraph (b) (breath test using infrared breath-testing instrument).

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 26

169A.46 AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES.

Subdivision 1. **Impairment occurred after driving ceased.** If proven by a preponderance of the evidence, it is an affirmative defense to a violation of section 169A.20, subdivision 1, clause (5) (driving while impaired, alcohol concentration within two hours of driving), or 169A.20 by a person having an alcohol concentration of 0.20 or more as measured at the time, or within two hours of the time, of the offense, that the defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of alcohol after the time of the violation and before the administration of the evidentiary test to cause the defendant's alcohol concentration to exceed the level specified in the applicable clause. Evidence that the defendant consumed alcohol after the time of the violation may not be admitted in defense to any alleged violation of section 169A.20, unless notice is given to the prosecution prior to the omnibus or pretrial hearing in the matter.

Subd. 2. **Impairment from prescription drug.** If proven by a preponderance of the evidence, it is an affirmative defense to a violation of section 169A.20 subdivision 1, clause (7) (presence of schedule I or II controlled substance), that the defendant used the controlled substance according to the terms of a prescription issued for the defendant in accordance with sections 152.11 and 152.12.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 27

169A.47 NOTICE OF ENHANCED PENALTY.

When a court sentences a person for a violation of sections 169A.20 to 169A.31 (impaired driving offenses), it shall inform the defendant of the statutory provisions that provide for enhancement of criminal penalties for repeat violators, and the provisions that provide for administrative plate impoundment and forfeiture of motor vehicles used to commit an impaired driving offense. The notice must describe the conduct and the time periods within which the conduct must occur in order to result in increased penalties, plate impoundment, or forfeiture. The failure of a court to provide this information to a defendant does not affect the future applicability of these enhanced penalties to that defendant.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 28

169A.48 IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY.

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, "political subdivision" means a county, statutory or home rule charter city, or town.

Subd. 2. **Immunity.** The state or political subdivision by which a peace officer making an arrest for violation of sections 169A.20 to 169A.33 (impaired driving offenses), is employed has immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, for the care or custody of the motor vehicle being driven by, operated by, or in the physical control of the person arrested if the peace officer acts in good faith and exercises due care.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 29

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

169A.50 CITATION.

Sections 169A.50 to 169A.53 may be cited as the Implied Consent Law.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 30

169A.51 CHEMICAL TESTS FOR INTOXICATION.

Subdivision 1. **Implied consent; conditions; election of test.** (a) Any person who drives, operates, or is in physical control of a motor vehicle within this state or on any boundary water of this state consents, subject to the provisions of sections 169A.50 to 169A.53 (implied consent law), and section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), to a chemical test of that person's blood, breath, or urine for the purpose of determining the presence of alcohol, controlled substances, or hazardous substances. The test must be administered at the direction of a peace officer.

(b) The test may be required of a person when an officer has probable cause to believe the person was driving, operating, or in physical control of a motor vehicle in violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), and one of the following conditions exist:

(1) the person has been lawfully placed under arrest for violation of section 169A.20 or an ordinance in conformity with it;

(2) the person has been involved in a motor vehicle accident or collision resulting in property damage, personal injury, or death;

(3) the person has refused to take the screening test provided for by section 169A.41 (preliminary screening test); or

(4) the screening test was administered and indicated an alcohol concentration of 0.10 or more.

(c) The test may also be required of a person when an officer has probable cause to believe the person was driving, operating, or in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle with the presence of any alcohol.

Subd. 2. **Implied consent advisory.** At the time a test is requested, the person must be informed:

(1) that Minnesota law requires the person to take a test:

(i) to determine if the person is under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances, or hazardous substances;

(ii) to determine the presence of a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II, other than marijuana or tetrahydrocannabinols; and

(iii) if the motor vehicle was a commercial motor vehicle, to determine the presence of alcohol;

(2) that refusal to take a test is a crime;

(3) if the peace officer has probable cause to believe the person has violated the criminal vehicular homicide and injury laws, that a test will be taken with or without the person's consent; and

(4) that the person has the right to consult with an attorney, but that this right is limited to the extent that it cannot unreasonably delay administration of the test.

Subd. 3. **Type of test.** The peace officer who requires a test pursuant to this section may direct whether the test is of blood, breath, or urine. Action may be taken against a person who refuses to take a blood test only if an alternative test was offered and action may be taken against a person who refuses to take a urine test only if an alternative test was offered.

Subd. 4. **Requirement of urine or blood test.** Notwithstanding subdivision 3, a blood or urine test may be required even after a breath test has been administered if there is probable cause to believe that:

(1) there is impairment by a controlled substance or hazardous substance that is not subject to testing by a breath test; or

(2) a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II, other than marijuana or tetrahydrocannabinols, is present in the person's body.

Action may be taken against a person who refuses to take a blood test under this subdivision only if a urine test was offered and action may be taken against a person who refuses to take a urine test only if a blood test was offered.

Subd. 5. Breath test using infrared breath-testing instrument. (a) In the case of a breath test administered using an infrared breath-testing instrument, the test must consist of analyses in the following sequence: one adequate breath sample analysis, one calibration standard analysis, and a second, adequate breath sample analysis.

(b) In the case of a test administered using an infrared breath-testing instrument, a sample is adequate if the instrument analyzes the sample and does not indicate the sample is deficient.

(c) For purposes of section 169A.52 (revocation of license for test failure or refusal), when a test is administered using an infrared breath-testing instrument, failure of a person to provide two separate, adequate breath samples in the proper sequence constitutes a refusal.

Subd. 6. Consent of person incapable of refusal not withdrawn. A person who is unconscious or who is otherwise in a condition rendering the person incapable of refusal is deemed not to have withdrawn the consent provided by subdivision 1 and the test may be given.

Subd. 7. Requirements for conducting tests; liability. (a) Only a physician, medical technician, physician's trained mobile intensive care paramedic, registered nurse, medical technologist, or laboratory assistant acting at the request of a peace officer may withdraw blood for the purpose of determining the presence of alcohol, controlled substances, or hazardous substances. This limitation does not apply to the taking of a breath or urine sample.

(b) The person tested has the right to have someone of the person's own choosing administer a chemical test or tests in addition to any administered at the direction of a peace officer; provided, that the additional test sample on behalf of the person is obtained at the place where the person is in custody, after the test administered at the direction of a peace officer, and at no expense to the state. The failure or inability to obtain an additional test or tests by a person does not preclude the admission in evidence of the test taken at the direction of a peace officer unless the additional test was prevented or denied by the peace officer.

(c) The physician, medical technician, physician's trained mobile intensive care paramedic, medical technologist, laboratory assistant, or registered nurse drawing blood at the request of a peace officer for the purpose of determining the concentration of alcohol, controlled substances, or hazardous substances is in no manner liable in any civil or criminal action except for negligence in drawing the blood. The person administering a breath test must be fully trained in the administration of breath tests pursuant to training given by the commissioner of public safety.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 31

169A.52 TEST REFUSAL OR FAILURE; LICENSE REVOCATION.

Subdivision 1. Test refusal. If a person refuses to permit a test, then a test must not be given, but the peace officer shall report the refusal to the commissioner and the authority having responsibility for prosecution of impaired driving offenses for the jurisdiction in which the acts occurred. However, if a peace officer has probable cause to believe that the person has violated section 609.21 (criminal vehicular homicide and injury), a test may be required and obtained despite the person's refusal. A refusal to submit to an alcohol concentration test does not constitute a violation of section 609.50 (obstructing legal process), unless the refusal was accompanied by force or violence or the threat of force or violence.

Subd. 2. Reporting test failure. If a person submits to a test, the results of that test must be reported to the commissioner and to the authority having responsibility for prosecution of impaired driving offenses for the jurisdiction in which the acts occurred, if the test results indicate:

- (1) an alcohol concentration of 0.10 or more;
- (2) an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more, if the person was driving, operating, or in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle at the time of the violation; or
- (3) the presence of a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II, other than marijuana or tetrahydrocannabinols.

Subd. 3. Test refusal; license revocation. (a) Upon certification by the peace officer that there existed probable cause to believe the person had been driving, operating; or in physical control of a motor vehicle in violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), and that the person refused to submit to a test, the commissioner shall revoke the person's license or permit to drive, or nonresident operating privilege, for a period of one year even if a test was obtained pursuant to this section after the person refused to submit to testing.

(b) Upon certification by the peace officer that there existed probable cause to believe the person had been driving, operating, or in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle with the presence of any alcohol in violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), and that the person refused to submit to a test, the commissioner shall disqualify the person from operating a commercial motor vehicle for a period of one year under section 171.165 (commercial driver's license disqualification) and shall revoke the person's license or permit to drive or nonresident operating privilege for a period of one year.

Subd. 4. Test failure; license revocation. (a) Upon certification by the peace officer that there existed probable cause to believe the person had been driving, operating, or in physical control of a motor vehicle in violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) and that the person submitted to a test and the test results indicate an alcohol concentration of 0.10 or more or the presence of a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II, other than marijuana or tetrahydrocannabinols, then the commissioner shall revoke the person's license or permit to drive, or nonresident operating privilege:

- (1) for a period of 90 days;
- (2) if the person is under the age of 21 years, for a period of six months;
- (3) for a person with a qualified prior impaired driving incident within the past ten years, for a period of 180 days; or
- (4) if the test results indicate an alcohol concentration of 0.20 or more, for twice the applicable period in clauses (1) to (3).

(b) On certification by the peace officer that there existed probable cause to believe the person had been driving, operating, or in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle with any presence of alcohol and that the person submitted to a test and the test results indicated an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more, the commissioner shall disqualify the person from operating a commercial motor vehicle under section 171.165 (commercial driver's license disqualification).

Subd. 5. Unlicensed drivers; license issuance denial. If the person is a resident without a license or permit to operate a motor vehicle in this state, the commissioner shall deny to the person the issuance of a license or permit after the date of the alleged violation for the same period as provided in this section for revocation, subject to review as provided in section 169A.53 (administrative and judicial review of license revocation).

Subd. 6. Notice of revocation or disqualification; review. A revocation under this section or a disqualification under section 171.165 (commercial driver's license disqualification) becomes effective at the time the commissioner or a peace officer acting on behalf of the commissioner notifies the person of the intention to revoke, disqualify, or both, and of revocation or disqualification. The notice must advise the person of the right to obtain administrative and judicial review as provided in section 169A.53 (administrative and judicial review of license revocation). If mailed, the notice and

order of revocation or disqualification is deemed received three days after mailing to the last known address of the person.

Subd. 7. Test refusal; driving privilege lost. (a) On behalf of the commissioner, a peace officer requiring a test or directing the administration of a chemical test shall serve immediate notice of intention to revoke and of revocation on a person who refuses to permit a test or on a person who submits to a test the results of which indicate an alcohol concentration of 0.10 or more.

(b) On behalf of the commissioner, a peace officer requiring a test or directing the administration of a chemical test of a person driving, operating, or in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle shall serve immediate notice of intention to disqualify and of disqualification on a person who refuses to permit a test, or on a person who submits to a test the results of which indicate an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more.

(c) The officer shall either:

(1) take the driver's license or permit, if any, send it to the commissioner along with the certificate required by subdivision 3 or 4, and issue a temporary license effective only for seven days; or

(2) invalidate the driver's license or permit in such a way that no identifying information is destroyed.

Subd. 8. Notice of action to other states. When a nonresident's privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state has been revoked or denied, the commissioner shall give information in writing of the action taken to the official in charge of traffic control or public safety of the state of the person's residence and of any state in which the person has a license.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 32

169A.53 ADMINISTRATIVE AND JUDICIAL REVIEW OF LICENSE REVOCATION.

Subdivision 1. Administrative review. (a) At any time during a period of revocation imposed under section 169A.52 (revocation of license for test failure or refusal) or a period of disqualification imposed under section 171.165 (commercial driver's license disqualification), a person may request in writing a review of the order of revocation or disqualification by the commissioner, unless the person is entitled to review under section 171.166 (review of disqualification). Upon receiving a request the commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall review the order, the evidence upon which the order was based, and any other material information brought to the attention of the commissioner, and determine whether sufficient cause exists to sustain the order. Within 15 days of receiving the request the commissioner shall report in writing the results of the review. The review provided in this subdivision is not subject to the contested case provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act in sections 14.001 to 14.69.

(b) The availability of administrative review for an order of revocation or disqualification has no effect upon the availability of judicial review under this section.

(c) Review under this subdivision must take place, if possible, at the same time as any administrative review of the person's impoundment order under section 169A.60, subdivision 9.

Subd. 2. Petition for judicial review. (a) Within 30 days following receipt of a notice and order of revocation or disqualification pursuant to section 169A.52 (revocation of license for test failure or refusal), a person may petition the court for review. The petition must be filed with the district court administrator in the county where the alleged offense occurred, together with proof of service of a copy on the commissioner, and accompanied by the standard filing fee for civil actions. Responsive pleading is not required of the commissioner, and court fees must not be charged for the appearance of the commissioner in the matter.

(b) The petition must:

(1) be captioned in the full name of the person making the petition as petitioner and the commissioner as respondent;

(2) include the petitioner's date of birth, driver's license number, and date of the offense; and

(3) state with specificity the grounds upon which the petitioner seeks rescission of the order of revocation, disqualification, or denial.

(c) The filing of the petition does not stay the revocation, disqualification, or denial. The reviewing court may order a stay of the balance of the revocation or disqualification if the hearing has not been conducted within 60 days after filing of the petition upon terms the court deems proper.

(d) Judicial reviews must be conducted according to the Rules of Civil Procedure, except that prehearing discovery is mandatory and is limited to:

(1) the notice of revocation;

(2) the test record or, in the case of blood or urine tests, the certificate of analysis;

(3) the peace officer's certificate and any accompanying documentation submitted by the arresting officer to the commissioner; and

(4) disclosure of potential witnesses, including experts, and the basis of their testimony.

Other types of discovery are available only upon order of the court.

Subd. 3. Hearing; issues; order; appeal. (a) A judicial review hearing under this section must be before a district judge in any county in the judicial district where the alleged offense occurred. The hearing is to the court and may be conducted at the same time and in the same manner as hearings upon pretrial motions in the criminal prosecution under section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), if any. The hearing must be recorded. The commissioner shall appear and be represented by the attorney general or through the prosecuting authority for the jurisdiction involved. The hearing must be held at the earliest practicable date, and in any event no later than 60 days following the filing of the petition for review. The judicial district administrator shall establish procedures to ensure efficient compliance with this subdivision. To accomplish this, the administrator may, whenever possible, consolidate and transfer review hearings among the locations within the judicial district where terms of district court are held.

(b) The scope of the hearing is limited to the issues in clauses (1) to (10):

(1) Did the peace officer have probable cause to believe the person was driving, operating, or in physical control of a motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle in violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired)?

(2) Was the person lawfully placed under arrest for violation of section 169A.20?

(3) Was the person involved in a motor vehicle accident or collision resulting in property damage, personal injury, or death?

(4) Did the person refuse to take a screening test provided for by section 169A.41 (preliminary screening test)?

(5) If the screening test was administered, did the test indicate an alcohol concentration of 0.10 or more?

(6) At the time of the request for the test, did the peace officer inform the person of the person's rights and the consequences of taking or refusing the test as required by section 169A.51, subdivision 2?

(7) Did the person refuse to permit the test?

(8) If a test was taken by a person driving, operating, or in physical control of a motor vehicle, did the test results indicate at the time of testing:

(i) an alcohol concentration of 0.10 or more; or

(ii) the presence of a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II, other than marijuana or tetrahydrocannabinols?

(9) If a test was taken by a person driving, operating, or in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle, did the test results indicate an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more at the time of testing?

(10) Was the testing method used valid and reliable and were the test results accurately evaluated?

(c) It is an affirmative defense for the petitioner to prove that, at the time of the refusal, the petitioner's refusal to permit the test was based upon reasonable grounds.

(d) Certified or otherwise authenticated copies of laboratory or medical personnel reports, records, documents, licenses, and certificates are admissible as substantive evidence.

(e) The court shall order that the revocation or disqualification be either rescinded or sustained and forward the order to the commissioner. The court shall file its order within 14 days following the hearing. If the revocation or disqualification is sustained, the court shall also forward the person's driver's license or permit to the commissioner for further action by the commissioner if the license or permit is not already in the commissioner's possession.

(f) Any party aggrieved by the decision of the reviewing court may appeal the decision as provided in the rules of appellate procedure.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 33

169A.54 IMPAIRED DRIVING CONVICTIONS AND ADJUDICATIONS; ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES.

Subdivision 1. **Revocation periods for DWI convictions.** Except as provided in subdivision 7, the commissioner shall revoke the driver's license of a person convicted of violating section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) or an ordinance in conformity with it, as follows:

(1) for an offense under section 169A.20, subdivision 1 (driving while impaired crime): not less than 30 days;

(2) for an offense under section 169A.20, subdivision 2 (refusal to submit to chemical test crime): not less than 90 days;

(3) for an offense occurring within ten years of a qualified prior impaired driving incident:

(i) if the current conviction is for a violation of section 169A.20, subdivision 1, not less than 180 days and until the court has certified that treatment or rehabilitation has been successfully completed where prescribed in accordance with section 169A.70 (chemical use assessments); or

(ii) if the current conviction is for a violation of section 169A.20, subdivision 2, not less than one year and until the court has certified that treatment or rehabilitation has been successfully completed where prescribed in accordance with section 169A.70;

(4) for an offense occurring within ten years of the first of two qualified prior impaired driving incidents: not less than one year, together with denial under section 171.04, subdivision 1, clause (10), until rehabilitation is established in accordance with standards established by the commissioner; or

(5) for an offense occurring within ten years of the first of three or more qualified prior impaired driving incidents: not less than two years, together with denial under section 171.04, subdivision 1, clause (10), until rehabilitation is established in accordance with standards established by the commissioner.

Subd. 2. **Driving while impaired by person under age 21.** If the person convicted of violating section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) is under the age of 21 years at the time of the violation, the commissioner shall revoke the offender's driver's license or operating privileges for a period of six months or for the appropriate period of time under subdivision 1, clauses (1) to (5), for the offense committed, whichever is the greatest period.

Subd. 3. **Juvenile adjudications.** For purposes of this section, a juvenile adjudication under section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), an ordinance in conformity with it, or a statute or ordinance from another state in conformity with it is an offense.

Subd. 4. **Violations involving personal injury.** Whenever department records show that the violation involved personal injury or death to any person, at least 90 additional days must be added to the base periods provided in subdivisions 1 to 3.

Subd. 5. **Violations involving alcohol concentration of 0.20 or more.** If the person is convicted of violating section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) while having an alcohol concentration of 0.20 or more as measured at the time, or within two hours of the time, of the offense, the commissioner shall revoke the person's driver's license for twice the period of time otherwise provided for in this section.

Subd. 6. **Applicability of implied consent revocation.** Except for a person whose license has been revoked under subdivision 2, and except for a person convicted of a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) while having a child under the age of 16 in the vehicle if the child is more than 36 months younger than the offender, any person whose license has been revoked pursuant to section 169A.52 (license revocation for test failure or refusal) as the result of the same incident, and who does not have a qualified prior impaired driving incident, is subject to the mandatory revocation provisions of subdivision 1, clause (1) or (2), in lieu of the mandatory revocation provisions of section 169A.52.

Subd. 7. **Alcohol-related commercial vehicle driving violations.** (a) The administrative penalties described in subdivision 1 do not apply to violations of section 169A.20, subdivision 1 (driving while impaired crime), by a person operating a commercial motor vehicle unless the person's alcohol concentration as measured at the time, or within two hours of the time, of the operation was 0.10 or more or the person violates section 169A.20, subdivision 1, clauses (1) to (4) or (7).

(b) The commissioner shall disqualify a person from operating a commercial motor vehicle as provided under section 171.165 (commercial driver's license, disqualification), on receipt of a record of conviction for a violation of section 169A.20.

(c) A person driving, operating, or in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle with any presence of alcohol is prohibited from operating a commercial motor vehicle for 24 hours from issuance of an out-of-service order.

Subd. 8. **Underage drinking and driving violations.** The administrative penalties described in section 169A.33, subdivision 3, apply to violations of section 169A.33 (underage drinking and driving).

Subd. 9. **Alcohol-related school bus driving violations.** The administrative penalties described in section 171.3215 (canceling school bus endorsements for certain offenses) apply to violations of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) by a person driving, operating, or in physical control of a school bus or Head Start bus.

Subd. 10. **License revocation; court invalidation.** (a) Except as provided in subdivision 7, on behalf of the commissioner, a court shall serve notice of revocation or cancellation on a person convicted of a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) unless the commissioner has already revoked the person's driving privileges or served the person with a notice of revocation for a violation of section 169A.52 (license revocation for test failure or refusal) arising out of the same incident.

(b) The court shall invalidate the driver's license or permit in such a way that no identifying information is destroyed.

Subd. 11. **Chemical use assessment.** When the evidentiary test shows an alcohol concentration of 0.07 or more, that result must be reported to the commissioner. The commissioner shall record that fact on the driver's record. When the driver's record shows a second or subsequent report of an alcohol concentration of 0.07 or more within two years of a recorded report, the commissioner may require that the driver have a chemical use assessment meeting the commissioner's requirements. The assessment must be at the driver's expense. In no event shall the commissioner deny the

license of a person who refuses to take the assessment or to undertake treatment, if treatment is indicated by the assessment, for longer than 90 days. If an assessment is made pursuant to this section, the commissioner may waive the assessment required by section 169A.70.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 34

169A.55 LICENSE REVOCATION TERMINATION; LICENSE REINSTATEMENT.

Subdivision 1. **Termination of revocation period.** If the commissioner receives notice of the driver's attendance at a driver improvement clinic, attendance at counseling sessions, or participation in treatment for an alcohol problem, the commissioner may, 30 days prior to the time the revocation period would otherwise expire, terminate the revocation period. The commissioner shall not terminate the revocation period under this subdivision for a driver who has had a license revoked under section 169A.52 (license revocation for test failure or refusal); 169A.54 (impaired driving convictions and adjudications; administrative penalties); or Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 169.121 (driving under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances); or 169.123 (implied consent) for another incident during the preceding three-year period.

Subd. 2. **Reinstatement of driving privileges; notice.** Upon expiration of a period of revocation under section 169A.52 (license revocation for test failure or refusal) or 169A.54 (impaired driving convictions and adjudications; administrative penalties), the commissioner shall notify the person of the terms upon which driving privileges can be reinstated, and new registration plates issued, which terms are: (1) successful completion of an examination and proof of compliance with any terms of alcohol treatment or counseling previously prescribed, if any; and (2) any other requirements imposed by the commissioner and applicable to that particular case. The commissioner shall notify the owner of a motor vehicle subject to an impoundment order under section 169A.60 (administrative impoundment of plates) as a result of the violation of the procedures for obtaining new registration plates, if the owner is not the violator. The commissioner shall also notify the person that if driving is resumed without reinstatement of driving privileges or without valid registration plates and registration certificate, the person will be subject to criminal penalties.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 35

169A.60 ADMINISTRATIVE IMPOUNDMENT OF PLATES.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings given in this subdivision.

(b) "Motor vehicle" means a self-propelled motor vehicle other than a motorboat in operation or a recreational vehicle.

(c) "Plate impoundment violation" includes:

(1) a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) or 169A.52 (license revocation for test failure or refusal), or a conforming ordinance from this state or a conforming statute or ordinance from another state, that results in the revocation of a person's driver's license or driving privileges, within ten years of a qualified prior impaired driving incident;

(2) a license disqualification under section 171.165 (commercial driver's license disqualification) resulting from a violation of section 169A.52 within ten years of a qualified prior impaired driving incident;

(3) a violation of section 169A.20 while having an alcohol concentration of 0.20 or more as measured at the time, or within two hours of the time, of the offense;

(4) a violation of section 169A.20 while having a child under the age of 16 in the vehicle if the child is more than 36 months younger than the offender; and

(5) a violation of section 171.24 (driving without valid license) by a person whose driver's license or driving privileges have been canceled under section 171.04, subdivision 1, clause (10) (persons not eligible for driver's license, inimical to public safety).

(d) "Violator" means a person who was driving, operating, or in physical control of the motor vehicle when the plate impoundment violation occurred.

Subd. 2. Plate impoundment violation; impoundment order. (a) The commissioner shall issue a registration plate impoundment order when:

(1) a person's driver's license or driving privileges are revoked for a plate impoundment violation; or

(2) a person is arrested for or charged with a plate impoundment violation described in subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (5).

(b) The order must require the impoundment of the registration plates of the motor vehicle involved in the plate impoundment violation and all motor vehicles owned by, registered, or leased in the name of the violator, including motor vehicles registered jointly or leased in the name of the violator and another. The commissioner shall not issue an impoundment order for the registration plates of a rental vehicle, as defined in section 168.041, subdivision 10, or a vehicle registered in another state.

Subd. 3. Notice of impoundment. An impoundment order is effective when the commissioner or a peace officer acting on behalf of the commissioner notifies the violator or the registered owner of the motor vehicle of the intent to impound and order of impoundment. The notice must advise the violator of the duties and obligations set forth in subdivision 6 (surrender of plates) and of the right to obtain administrative and judicial review. The notice to the registered owner who is not the violator must include the procedure to obtain new registration plates under subdivision 8. If mailed, the notice and order of impoundment is deemed received three days after mailing to the last known address of the violator or the registered owner.

Subd. 4. Peace officer as agent for notice of impoundment. On behalf of the commissioner, a peace officer issuing a notice of intent to revoke and of revocation for a plate impoundment violation shall also serve a notice of intent to impound and an order of impoundment. On behalf of the commissioner, a peace officer who is arresting a person for or charging a person with a plate impoundment violation described in subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (5), shall also serve a notice of intent to impound and an order of impoundment. If the vehicle involved in the plate impoundment violation is accessible to the officer at the time the impoundment order is issued, the officer shall seize the registration plates subject to the impoundment order. The officer shall destroy all plates seized or impounded under this section. The officer shall send to the commissioner copies of the notice of intent to impound and the order of impoundment and a notice that registration plates impounded and seized under this section have been destroyed.

Subd. 5. Temporary permit. If the motor vehicle is registered to the violator, the officer shall issue a temporary vehicle permit that is valid for seven days when the officer issues the notices under subdivision 4. If the motor vehicle is registered in the name of another, the officer shall issue a temporary vehicle permit that is valid for 45 days when the notices are issued under subdivision 3. The permit must be in a form determined by the registrar and whenever practicable must be posted on the left side of the inside rear window of the vehicle. A permit is valid only for the vehicle for which it is issued.

Subd. 6. Surrender of plates. Within seven days after issuance of the impoundment notice, a person who receives a notice of impoundment and impoundment order shall surrender all registration plates subject to the impoundment order that were not seized by a peace officer under subdivision 4. Registration plates required to be surrendered under this subdivision must be surrendered to a Minnesota police department, sheriff, or the state patrol, along with a copy of the impoundment order. A law enforcement agency receiving registration plates under this subdivision shall destroy the plates and notify the commissioner that they have been destroyed. The notification to the commissioner shall also include a copy of the impoundment order.

Subd. 7. Vehicle not owned by violator. A violator may file a sworn statement with the commissioner within seven days of the issuance of an impoundment order stating

any material information relating to the impoundment order, including that the vehicle has been sold or destroyed, and supplying the date, name, location, and address of the person or entity that purchased or destroyed the vehicle. The commissioner shall rescind the impoundment order if the violator shows that the impoundment order was not properly issued.

Subd. 8. Reissuance of registration plates. (a) The commissioner shall rescind the impoundment order of a person subject to an order under this section, other than the violator, if:

(1) the violator had a valid driver's license on the date of the plate impoundment violation and the person files with the commissioner an acceptable sworn statement containing the following information:

(i) that the person is the registered owner of the vehicle from which the plates have been impounded under this section;

(ii) that the person is the current owner and possessor of the vehicle used in the violation;

(iii) the date on which the violator obtained the vehicle from the registered owner;

(iv) the residence addresses of the registered owner and the violator on the date the violator obtained the vehicle from the registered owner;

(v) that the person was not a passenger in the vehicle at the time of the plate impoundment violation; and

(vi) that the person knows that the violator may not drive, operate, or be in physical control of a vehicle without a valid driver's license; or

(2) the violator did not have a valid driver's license on the date of the plate impoundment violation and the person made a report to law enforcement before the violation stating that the vehicle had been taken from the person's possession or was being used without permission.

(b) A person who has failed to make a report as provided in paragraph (a), clause (2), may be issued special registration plates under subdivision 13 for a period of one year from the effective date of the impoundment order. At the next registration renewal following this period, the person may apply for regular registration plates.

(c) If the order is rescinded, the owner shall receive new registration plates at no cost, if the plates were seized and destroyed.

Subd. 9. Administrative review. (a) At any time during the effective period of an impoundment order, a person may request in writing a review of the impoundment order by the commissioner. On receiving a request, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall review the order, the evidence upon which the order was based, and any other material information brought to the attention of the commissioner, and determine whether sufficient cause exists to sustain the order. The commissioner shall report in writing the results of the review within 15 days of receiving the request. The review provided in this subdivision is not subject to the contested case provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act in sections 14.001 to 14.69. As a result of this review, the commissioner may authorize the issuance at no cost of new registration plates to the registered owner of the vehicle if the registered owner's license or driving privileges were not revoked as a result of the plate impoundment violation.

(b) Review under this subdivision must take place, if possible, at the same time as any administrative review of the person's license revocation under section 169A.53 (administrative and judicial review of license revocation).

Subd. 10. Petition for judicial review. (a) Within 30 days following receipt of a notice and order of impoundment under this section, a person may petition the court for review. The petition must include the petitioner's date of birth, driver's license number, and date of the plate impoundment violation. The petition must state with specificity the grounds upon which the petitioner seeks rescission of the order for impoundment. The petition may be combined with any petition filed under section 169A.53 (administrative and judicial review of license revocation).

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the judicial review and hearing are governed by section 169A.53 and must take place at the same time as any judicial review of the person's license revocation under section 169A.53. The filing of the petition does not stay the impoundment order. The reviewing court may order a stay of the balance of the impoundment period if the hearing has not been conducted within 60 days after filing of the petition upon terms the court deems proper. The court shall order either that the impoundment be rescinded or sustained, and forward the order to the commissioner. The court shall file its order within 14 days following the hearing.

(c) In addition to the issues described in section 169A.53, subdivision 3 (judicial review of license revocation), the scope of a hearing under this subdivision is limited to:

(1) whether the violator owns, is the registered owner of, possesses, or has access to the vehicle used in the plate impoundment violation;

(2) whether a member of the violator's household has a valid driver's license, the violator or registered owner has a limited license issued under section 171.30, the registered owner is not the violator, and the registered owner has a valid or limited driver's license, or a member of the registered owner's household has a valid driver's license; and

(3) if the impoundment is based on a plate impoundment violation described in subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (3) or (4), whether the peace officer had probable cause to believe the violator committed the plate impoundment violation and whether the evidence demonstrates that the plate impoundment violation occurred.

(d) In a hearing under this subdivision, the following records are admissible in evidence:

(1) certified copies of the violator's driving record; and

(2) certified copies of vehicle registration records bearing the violator's name.

Subd. 11. Rescission of revocation; dismissal or acquittal; new plates. If:

(1) the driver's license revocation that is the basis for an impoundment order is rescinded;

(2) the charges for the plate impoundment violation have been dismissed with prejudice; or

(3) the violator has been acquitted of the plate impoundment violation;

then the registrar of motor vehicles shall issue new registration plates for the vehicle at no cost, when the registrar receives an application that includes a copy of the order rescinding the driver's license revocation, the order dismissing the charges, or the judgment of acquittal.

Subd. 12. Charge for reinstatement of plates in certain situations. When the registrar of motor vehicles reinstates a person's registration plates after impoundment for reasons other than those described in subdivision 11, the registrar shall charge the person \$50 for each vehicle for which the registration plates are being reinstated.

Subd. 13. Special registration plates. A violator or registered owner may apply to the commissioner for new registration plates, which must bear a special series of numbers or letters so as to be readily identified by traffic law enforcement officers. The commissioner may authorize the issuance of special plates if:

(1) the violator has a qualified licensed driver whom the violator must identify;

(2) the violator or registered owner has a limited license issued under section 171.30;

(3) the registered owner is not the violator and the registered owner has a valid or limited driver's license; or

(4) a member of the registered owner's household has a valid driver's license.

The commissioner may issue the special plates on payment of a \$50 fee for each vehicle for which special plates are requested.

Subd. 14. **Sale of vehicle subject to impoundment order.** A registered owner may not sell a motor vehicle during the time its registration plates have been ordered impounded or during the time its registration plates bear a special series number, unless:

- (1) the sale is for a valid consideration;
- (2) the transferee does not reside in the same household as the registered owner; and
- (3) all elements of section 168A.10 (transfer of interest by owner) are satisfied.

The registrar may then transfer the title to the new owner upon proper application and issue new registration plates.

Subd. 15. **Acquiring another vehicle.** If the violator applies to the commissioner for registration plates for any vehicle during the effective period of the plate impoundment, the commissioner shall not issue registration plates unless the violator qualifies for special registration plates under subdivision 13 and unless the plates issued are special plates as described in subdivision 13.

Subd. 16. **Fees credited to highway user fund.** Fees collected from the sale or reinstatement of license plates under this section must be paid into the state treasury and credited one-half to the highway user tax distribution fund and one-half to the general fund.

Subd. 17. **Plate impoundment; penalty.** Criminal penalties for violating this section are governed by section 169A.37.

Subd. 18. **Stop of vehicles bearing special plates.** The authority of a peace officer to stop a vehicle bearing special plates is governed by section 168.0422.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 36

169A.63 VEHICLE FORFEITURE.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings given them.

(b) "Appropriate agency" means a law enforcement agency that has the authority to make an arrest for a violation of a designated offense or to require a test under section 169A.51 (chemical tests for intoxication).

(c) "Designated license revocation" includes a license revocation under section 169A.52 (license revocation for test failure or refusal) or a license disqualification under section 171.165 (commercial driver's license disqualification) resulting from a violation of section 169A.52; within ten years of the first of two or more qualified prior impaired driving incidents.

(d) "Designated offense" includes:

(1) a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) under the circumstances described in section 169A.25 (first-degree driving while impaired); or

(2) a violation of section 169A.20 or an ordinance in conformity with it:

(i) by a person whose driver's license or driving privileges have been canceled as inimical to public safety under section 171.04, subdivision 1, clause (10); or

(ii) by a person who is subject to a restriction on the person's driver's license under section 171.09 (commissioner's license restrictions), which provides that the person may not use or consume any amount of alcohol or a controlled substance.

(e) "Motor vehicle" and "vehicle" do not include a vehicle which is stolen or taken in violation of the law.

(f) "Owner" means the registered owner of the motor vehicle according to records of the department of public safety and includes a lessee of a motor vehicle if the lease agreement has a term of 180 days or more.

(g) "Prosecuting authority" means the attorney in the jurisdiction in which the designated offense occurred who is responsible for prosecuting violations of a designated offense.

Subd. 2. **Seizure.** (a) A motor vehicle subject to forfeiture under this section may be seized by the appropriate agency upon process issued by any court having jurisdiction over the vehicle.

(b) Property may be seized without process if:

- (1) the seizure is incident to a lawful arrest or a lawful search;
- (2) the vehicle subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a criminal injunction or forfeiture proceeding under this section; or
- (3) the appropriate agency has probable cause to believe that the delay occasioned by the necessity to obtain process would result in the removal or destruction of the vehicle. If property is seized without process under this clause, the prosecuting authority must institute a forfeiture action under this section as soon as is reasonably possible.

Subd. 3. **Right to possession vests immediately; custody.** All right, title, and interest in a vehicle subject to forfeiture under this section vests in the appropriate agency upon commission of the conduct resulting in the designated offense or designated license revocation giving rise to the forfeiture. Any vehicle seized under this section is not subject to replevin, but is deemed to be in the custody of the appropriate agency subject to the orders and decrees of the court having jurisdiction over the forfeiture proceedings. When a vehicle is seized under this section, the appropriate agency may:

- (1) place the vehicle under seal;
- (2) remove the vehicle to a place designated by it;
- (3) place a disabling device on the vehicle; and
- (4) take other steps reasonable and necessary to secure the vehicle and prevent waste.

Subd. 4. **Bond by owner for possession.** If the owner of a vehicle that has been seized under this section seeks possession of the vehicle before the forfeiture action is determined, the owner may, subject to the approval of the appropriate agency, give security or post bond payable to the appropriate agency in an amount equal to the retail value of the seized vehicle. On posting the security or bond, the seized vehicle may be returned to the owner only if a disabling device is attached to the vehicle. The forfeiture action must proceed against the security as if it were the seized vehicle.

Subd. 5. **Evidence.** Certified copies of court records and motor vehicle and driver's license records concerning qualified prior impaired driving incidents are admissible as substantive evidence where necessary to prove the commission of a designated offense or the occurrence of a designated license revocation.

Subd. 6. **Vehicle subject to forfeiture.** A motor vehicle is subject to forfeiture under this section if it was used in the commission of a designated offense or was used in conduct resulting in a designated license revocation.

Subd. 7. **Limitations on vehicle forfeiture.** (a) A vehicle is subject to forfeiture under this section only if:

- (1) the driver is convicted of the designated offense upon which the forfeiture is based;
- (2) the driver fails to appear with respect to the designated offense charge in violation of section 609.49 (release; failure to appear); or
- (3) the driver's conduct results in a designated license revocation and the driver either fails to seek administrative or judicial review of the revocation in a timely manner as required by section 169A.53 (administrative and judicial review of license revocation), or the license revocation is sustained under section 169A.53.

(b) A vehicle encumbered by a bona fide security interest, or subject to a lease that has a term of 180 days or more, is subject to the interest of the secured party or lessor unless the party or lessor had knowledge of or consented to the act upon which the forfeiture is based. However, when the proceeds of the sale of a seized vehicle do not equal or exceed the outstanding loan balance, the appropriate agency shall remit all proceeds of the sale to the secured party. If the sale of the vehicle is conducted in a commercially reasonable manner consistent with the provisions of section 336.9-504, clause (3), the agency is not liable to the secured party for any amount owed on the loan in excess of the sale proceeds if the secured party received notification of the time and place of the sale at least three days prior to the sale.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (b) and (d), the secured party's, lessor's, or owner's interest in a vehicle is not subject to forfeiture based solely on the secured party's, lessor's, or owner's knowledge of the act or omission upon which the forfeiture is based if the secured party, lessor, or owner took reasonable steps to terminate use of the vehicle by the offender.

(d) A motor vehicle is subject to forfeiture under this section only if its owner knew or should have known of the unlawful use or intended use.

(e) A vehicle subject to a security interest, based upon a loan or other financing arranged by a financial institution, is subject to the interest of the financial institution.

Subd. 8. Administrative forfeiture procedure. (a) A motor vehicle used to commit a designated offense or used in conduct resulting in a designated license revocation is subject to administrative forfeiture under this subdivision.

(b) When a motor vehicle is seized under subdivision 2, the appropriate agency shall serve the driver or operator of the vehicle with a notice of the seizure and intent to forfeit the vehicle. Additionally, when a motor vehicle is seized under subdivision 2, or within a reasonable time after that, all persons known to have an ownership, possessory, or security interest in the vehicle must be notified of the seizure and the intent to forfeit the vehicle. For those vehicles required to be registered under chapter 168, the notification to a person known to have a security interest in the vehicle is required only if the vehicle is registered under chapter 168 and the interest is listed on the vehicle's title. Notice mailed by certified mail to the address shown in department of public safety records is sufficient notice to the registered owner of the vehicle. For motor vehicles not required to be registered under chapter 168, notice mailed by certified mail to the address shown in the applicable filing or registration for the vehicle is sufficient notice to a person known to have an ownership, possessory, or security interest in the vehicle. Otherwise, notice may be given in the manner provided by law for service of a summons in a civil action.

(c) The notice must be in writing and contain:

- (1) a description of the vehicle seized;
- (2) the date of seizure; and

(3) notice of the right to obtain judicial review of the forfeiture and of the procedure for obtaining that judicial review, printed in English, Hmong, and Spanish. Substantially the following language must appear conspicuously: "IF YOU DO NOT DEMAND JUDICIAL REVIEW EXACTLY AS PRESCRIBED IN MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 169A.63, SUBDIVISION 8, YOU LOSE THE RIGHT TO A JUDICIAL DETERMINATION OF THIS FORFEITURE AND YOU LOSE ANY RIGHT YOU MAY HAVE TO THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY. YOU MAY NOT HAVE TO PAY THE FILING FEE FOR THE DEMAND IF DETERMINED YOU ARE UNABLE TO AFFORD THE FEE. IF THE PROPERTY IS WORTH \$7,500 OR LESS, YOU MAY FILE YOUR CLAIM IN CONCILIATION COURT. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO PAY THE CONCILIATION COURT FILING FEE IF THE PROPERTY IS WORTH LESS THAN \$500."

(d) Within 30 days following service of a notice of seizure and forfeiture under this subdivision, a claimant may file a demand for a judicial determination of the forfeiture. The demand must be in the form of a civil complaint and must be filed with the court

administrator in the county in which the seizure occurred, together with proof of service of a copy of the complaint on the prosecuting authority having jurisdiction over the forfeiture, and the standard filing fee for civil actions unless the petitioner has the right to sue in forma pauperis under section 563.01. If the value of the seized property is \$7,500 or less, the claimant may file an action in conciliation court for recovery of the seized vehicle. If the value of the seized property is less than \$500, the claimant does not have to pay the conciliation court filing fee. No responsive pleading is required of the prosecuting authority and no court fees may be charged for the prosecuting authority's appearance in the matter. Except as provided in this section, judicial reviews and hearings are governed by section 169A.53, subdivisions 2 and 3, and, at the option of the prosecuting authority, may take place at the same time as any judicial review of the person's license revocation under section 169A.53. If the judicial review and hearing under this section do not take place at the same time as the judicial review of the person's license revocation under section 169A.53, the review and hearing must take place at the earliest practicable date. The proceedings may be combined with any hearing on a petition filed under section 169A.53, subdivision 2, and are governed by the Rules of Civil Procedure.

(e) The complaint must be captioned in the name of the claimant as plaintiff and the seized vehicle as defendant, and must state with specificity the grounds on which the claimant alleges the vehicle was improperly seized and the plaintiff's interest in the vehicle seized. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, an action for the return of a vehicle seized under this section may not be maintained by or on behalf of any person who has been served with a notice of seizure and forfeiture unless the person has complied with this subdivision.

(f) If the claimant makes a timely demand for a judicial determination under this subdivision, the appropriate agency must conduct the forfeiture under subdivision 9.

(g) If a demand for judicial determination of an administrative forfeiture is filed under this subdivision and the court orders the return of the seized vehicle, the court shall order that filing fees be reimbursed to the person who filed the demand. In addition, the court may order sanctions under section 549.211 (sanctions in civil actions).

Subd. 9. Judicial forfeiture procedure. (a) This subdivision governs judicial determinations of the forfeiture of a motor vehicle used to commit a designated offense or used in conduct resulting in a designated license revocation.

(b) A separate complaint must be filed against the vehicle, describing it, specifying that it was used in the commission of a designated offense or was used in conduct resulting in a designated license revocation, and specifying the time and place of its unlawful use. If the forfeiture is based on the commission of a designated offense and the person charged with the designated offense appears in court as required and is not convicted of the offense, the court shall dismiss the complaint against the vehicle and order the property returned to the person legally entitled to it. If the forfeiture is based on a designated license revocation, and the license revocation is rescinded under section 169A.53 (administrative and judicial review of license revocation), the court shall dismiss the complaint against the vehicle and order the property returned to the person legally entitled to it. If the lawful ownership of the vehicle used in the commission of a designated offense or used in conduct resulting in a designated license revocation can be determined and it is found the owner was not privy to commission of a designated offense or was not privy to the conduct resulting in the designated license revocation, the vehicle must be returned immediately.

Subd. 10. Disposition of forfeited vehicle. (a) If the vehicle is administratively forfeited under subdivision 8, or if the court finds under subdivision 9 that the vehicle is subject to forfeiture under subdivisions 6 and 7, the appropriate agency shall:

- (1) sell the vehicle and distribute the proceeds under paragraph (b); or
- (2) keep the vehicle for official use. If the agency keeps a forfeited motor vehicle for official use, it shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that the motor vehicle is

available for use by the agency's officers who participate in the drug abuse resistance education program.

(b) The proceeds from the sale of forfeited vehicles, after payment of seizure, storage, forfeiture, and sale expenses, and satisfaction of valid liens against the property, must be forwarded to the treasury of the political subdivision that employs the appropriate agency responsible for the forfeiture for use in DWI-related enforcement, training, and education. If the appropriate agency is an agency of state government, the net proceeds must be forwarded to the state treasury and credited to the following funds:

(1) if the forfeited vehicle is a motorboat, the net proceeds must be credited to the water recreation account in the natural resources fund;

(2) if the forfeited vehicle is a snowmobile, the net proceeds must be credited to the snowmobile trails and enforcement account in the natural resources fund;

(3) if the forfeited vehicle is an all-terrain vehicle, the net proceeds must be credited to the all-terrain vehicle account in the natural resources fund;

(4) if the forfeited vehicle is an off-highway motorcycle, the net proceeds must be credited to the off-highway motorcycle account in the natural resources fund;

(5) if the forfeited vehicle is an off-road vehicle, the net proceeds must be credited to the off-road vehicle account in the natural resources fund; and

(6) if otherwise, the net proceeds must be credited to the general fund.

Subd. 11. Sale of forfeited vehicle by secured party. (a) A financial institution with a valid security interest in or a valid lease covering a forfeited vehicle may choose to dispose of the vehicle under this subdivision, in lieu of the appropriate agency disposing of the vehicle under subdivision 9. A financial institution wishing to dispose of a vehicle under this subdivision shall notify the appropriate agency of its intent, in writing, within 30 days after receiving notice of the seizure and forfeiture. The appropriate agency shall release the vehicle to the financial institution or its agent after the financial institution presents proof of its valid security agreement or of its lease agreement and the financial institution agrees not to sell the vehicle to a member of the violator's household, unless the violator is not convicted of the offense on which the forfeiture is based. The financial institution shall dispose of the vehicle in a commercially reasonable manner as defined in section 336.9-504.

(b) After disposing of the forfeited vehicle, the financial institution shall reimburse the appropriate agency for its seizure, storage, and forfeiture costs. The financial institution may then apply the proceeds of the sale to its storage costs, to its sale expenses, and to satisfy the lien or the lease on the vehicle. If any proceeds remain, the financial institution shall forward the proceeds to the state treasury, which shall credit the appropriate fund as specified in subdivision 9.

History: 2000 c 466 s 3,4; 2000 c 478 art 1 s 37; art 2 s 7; 2000 c 495 s 46; 2000 c 478 art 2 s 7

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

169A.70 ALCOHOL SAFETY PROGRAMS; CHEMICAL USE ASSESSMENTS.

Subdivision 1. Alcohol safety programs; establishment. (a) The county board of every county shall establish an alcohol safety program designed to provide chemical use assessments of persons convicted of an offense enumerated in subdivision 2.

(b) County boards may enter into an agreement to establish a regional alcohol safety program. County boards may contract with other counties and agencies for alcohol problem screening and chemical use assessment services.

Subd. 2. Chemical use assessment requirement. A chemical use assessment must be conducted and an assessment report submitted to the court and to the department of public safety by the county agency administering the alcohol safety program when:

(1) the defendant is convicted of an offense described in section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus and Head Start bus driving), or 360.0752 (impaired aircraft operation); or

(2) the defendant is arrested for committing an offense described in clause (1) but is convicted of another offense arising out of the circumstances surrounding the arrest.

Subd. 3. Assessment report. (a) The assessment report must be on a form prescribed by the commissioner and shall contain an evaluation of the convicted defendant concerning the defendant's prior traffic record, characteristics and history of alcohol and chemical use problems, and amenability to rehabilitation through the alcohol safety program. The report is classified as private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12.

(b) The assessment report must include:

(1) a recommended level of care for the offender in accordance with the criteria contained in rules adopted by the commissioner of human services under section 254A.03, subdivision 3 (chemical dependency treatment rules);

(2) recommendations for other appropriate remedial action or care that may consist of educational programs, one-on-one counseling, a program or type of treatment that addresses mental health concerns, or a combination of them; or

(3) a specific explanation why no level of care or action was recommended.

Subd. 4. Assessor standards; rules; assessment time limits. A chemical use assessment required by this section must be conducted by an assessor appointed by the court. The assessor must meet the training and qualification requirements of rules adopted by the commissioner of human services under section 254A.03, subdivision 3 (chemical dependency treatment rules). Notwithstanding section 13.82 (law enforcement data), the assessor shall have access to any police reports, laboratory test results, and other law enforcement data relating to the current offense or previous offenses that are necessary to complete the evaluation. An assessor providing an assessment under this section may not have any direct or shared financial interest or referral relationship resulting in shared financial gain with a treatment provider. If an independent assessor is not available, the court may use the services of an assessor authorized to perform assessments for the county social services agency under a variance granted under rules adopted by the commissioner of human services under section 254A.03, subdivision 3. An appointment for the defendant to undergo the assessment must be made by the court, a court services probation officer, or the court administrator as soon as possible but in no case more than one week after the defendant's court appearance. The assessment must be completed no later than three weeks after the defendant's court appearance. If the assessment is not performed within this time limit, the county where the defendant is to be sentenced shall perform the assessment. The county of financial responsibility must be determined under chapter 256G.

Subd. 5. Applicability to nonresident. This section does not apply to a person who is not a resident of the state of Minnesota at the time of the offense and at the time of the assessment.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 38

169A.71 RESEARCH PROGRAMS.

No person is guilty of a violation of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) committed while participating in a research or demonstration project conducted by the Minnesota highway safety center. This section applies only to conduct occurring while operating a state-owned vehicle under the supervision of personnel of the center on the grounds of the center.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 39

169A.72 DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

Driver training courses offered through the public schools and driver training courses offered by private or commercial schools or institutes shall include instruction which must encompass at least:

- (1) information on the effects of consumption of beverage alcohol products and the use of illegal drugs, prescription drugs, and nonprescription drugs on the ability of a person to operate a motor vehicle;
- (2) the hazards of driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs; and
- (3) the legal penalties and financial consequences resulting from violations of laws prohibiting the operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 40

169A.73 REMOTE ELECTRONIC ALCOHOL MONITORING PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** As used in this section:

- (1) "breath analyzer unit" means a device that performs breath alcohol testing and is connected to a remote electronic alcohol monitoring system; and
- (2) "remote electronic alcohol monitoring system" means a system that electronically monitors the alcohol concentration of individuals in their homes or other locations to ensure compliance with conditions of pretrial release, supervised release, or probation.

Subd. 2. **Program established.** In cooperation with the conference of chief judges, the state court administrator, and the commissioner of public safety, the commissioner of corrections shall establish a program to use breath analyzer units to monitor impaired driving offenders who are ordered to abstain from alcohol use as a condition of pretrial release, supervised release, or probation. The program must include procedures to ensure that violators of this condition of release receive swift consequences for the violation.

Subd. 3. **Cost of program.** Offenders who are ordered to participate in the program shall also be ordered to pay the per diem cost of the monitoring unless the offender is indigent. The commissioner of corrections shall reimburse the judicial districts in a manner proportional to their use of remote electronic alcohol monitoring for any costs the districts incur in participating in the program.

Subd. 4. **Report required.** By January 1, 2004, the commissioner of corrections shall evaluate the effectiveness of the program and report the results of this evaluation to the conference of chief judges, the state court administrator, the commissioner of public safety, and the chairs and ranking minority members of the house and senate committees and divisions having jurisdiction over criminal justice policy and funding.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 41

169A.74 PILOT PROGRAMS OF INTENSIVE PROBATION.

Subdivision 1. **Grant application.** The commissioners of corrections and public safety, in cooperation with the commissioner of human services, shall jointly administer a program to provide grants to counties to establish and operate programs of intensive probation for repeat violators of the driving while impaired laws. The commissioners shall adopt an application form on which a county or a group of counties may apply for a grant to establish and operate an impaired driving repeat offender program.

Subd. 2. **Goals.** The goals of the impaired driving repeat offender program are to protect public safety and provide an appropriate sentencing alternative for persons convicted of repeat violations of section 169A.20 (driving while impaired), who are considered to be of high risk to the community.

Subd. 3. **Program elements.** To be considered for a grant under this section, a county program must contain the following elements:

(1) an initial assessment of the offender's chemical dependency, based on the results of a chemical use assessment conducted under section 169A.70, with recommended treatment and aftercare, and a requirement that the offender follow the recommended treatment and aftercare;

(2) several stages of probation supervision, including:

(i) a period of incarceration in a local or regional detention facility;

(ii) a period during which an offender is, at all times, either working, on home detention, being supervised at a program facility, or traveling between two of these locations;

(iii) a period of home detention; and

(iv) a period of gradually decreasing involvement with the program;

(3) decreasing levels of intensity and contact with probation officials based on the offender's successful participation in the program and compliance with its rules;

(4) a provision for increasing the severity of the program's requirements when an offender offends again or violates the program's rules;

(5) a provision for offenders to continue or seek employment during their period of intensive probation;

(6) a requirement that offenders abstain from alcohol and controlled substances during the probation period and be tested for such use on a routine basis; and

(7) a requirement that all or a substantial part of the costs of the program be paid by the offenders.

Subd. 4. **Training.** Counties participating in the program shall provide relevant training in intensive probation programs to affected officials.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 42

169A.75 IMPAIRED DRIVING-RELATED RULES.

The commissioner may promulgate rules to carry out the provisions of this chapter. The rules may include forms for notice of intention to revoke that describe clearly the right to a hearing, the procedure for requesting a hearing, and the consequences of failure to request a hearing; forms for revocation and notice of reinstatement of driving privileges as provided in section 169A.55; and forms for temporary licenses.

Rules promulgated pursuant to this section are subject to sections 14.01 to 14.20 and 14.365 to 14.69 (Administrative Procedure Act).

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 43

169A.76 CIVIL ACTION; PUNITIVE DAMAGES.

(a) In a civil action involving a motor vehicle accident, it is sufficient for the trier of fact to consider an award of punitive damages if there is evidence that the accident was caused by a driver:

(1) with an alcohol concentration of 0.10 or more;

(2) who was under the influence of a controlled substance;

(3) who was under the influence of alcohol and refused to take a test required under section 169A.51 (chemical tests for intoxication); or

(4) who was knowingly under the influence of a hazardous substance that substantially affects the person's nervous system, brain, or muscles so as to impair the person's ability to drive or operate a motor vehicle.

(b) A criminal charge or conviction is not a prerequisite to consideration of punitive damages under this section. At the trial in an action where the trier of fact will consider an award of punitive damages, evidence that the driver has been convicted of violating section 169A.20 (driving while impaired) or 609.21 (criminal vehicular homicide and injury) is admissible into evidence.

History: 2000 c 478 art 1 s 44