



ST HELENA

A BILL

FOR

AN ORDINANCE

to amend the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1985, to further regulate the provisions relating to the licensing of drivers and motor vehicles.

Enacted by the Governor of St Helena with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of St Helena.

Short title

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Road Traffic (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020.

Duration of licence

2. Section 12 of the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1985, is repealed and the following is substituted:

“(1) Subject to subsection (2), a motor vehicle or trailer licence must be taken out annually and is valid for 12 months from the date of issue.

“(2) The Governor in Council may, either generally or in respect of any category or class of motor vehicle, by order extend the period of validity of licences granted under section 11 for a period or periods not exceeding three months at a time.”.

Recognition of foreign licences

3. Section 17 of the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1985, is amended by adding the following subsection:

“(3) The Governor in Council may by order—

- (a) extend the period of three months in subsection (1)(a) by a further period or periods not exceeding three months at a time; and
- (b) during the period of extension under paragraph (a), the age limit of 70 years under subsection (1)(c) does not apply to any person in respect of whom the extension applies.”.

Duration of licence

4. Section 20 of the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1985, is repealed and the following is substituted:

“**20. (1)** Subject to subsection (2), a licence to drive a motor vehicle must be taken out annually and is valid for 12 calendar months from the date of issue.

(2) The Governor in Council may, either generally or in respect of any category of drivers or drivers of a specific class of motor vehicle, by order extend the period of validity of licences granted under section 16 for a period or periods not exceeding three months at a time.”.

Provisions as to competence to drive and control a motor vehicle

5. Section 22 of the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1985, is amended by inserting the following subsection after subsection (2):

“(2A) The Governor in Council may by order extend the validity of provisional licences granted under subsection (2) for a period or periods not exceeding three months at a time.”.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Ordinance)

Under section 12 of the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1985, vehicle licences are valid for a period of 12 months. A new provision is inserted in the Ordinance to enable the Governor in Council to extend the period of validity of licences for a period or periods of up to 3 months at a time.

A person who holds a valid foreign driving licence may drive a motor vehicle in St Helena without being the holder of a local licence if the person has been in St Helena for less than 3 months in the preceding 12 months and the person is between the ages of 18 and 70 years. A new provision is inserted to enable the Governor in Council to extend this 3 month period by a further period or periods up to 3 months at a time and, in that case, the upper age limit of 70 years does not apply to such a person to whom the extension applies.

Under section 20 of the Ordinance, driving licences are valid for a period of 12 months. A new provision is inserted to enable the Governor in Council to extend the period of validity of licences for a period or periods of up to 3 months at a time.

Provisional licences are valid for a period of 3 months. A new provision is inserted to enable the Governor in Council to extend the validity of a provisional licence for a further period or periods of up to 3 months at a time.