HB 609 -- Driver's Education for Students

Sponsor: Baker (25)

This bill requires school districts to offer a driver's education course to students 15 years of age or older. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is required to develop a driver's education course through the Missouri Virtual School. A student who completes a driver's education course may apply for his or her permanent license 90 days early. Certain driver's license fees are increased by \$2, to be deposited into the newly created Driver's Education Fund, for the development of the on-line course and to offset fees for students who qualify for the reduced-price lunch program.

Individuals who are driving with a temporary instruction permit or intermediate license are prohibited from using a cell phone except for an emergency. A violation of this provision will be a misdemeanor punishable by a \$20 fine for the first offense and a \$50 fine for a second offense.