



AN ACT REVISING THE LAWS RELATING TO ALCOHOL-RELATED OR DRUG-RELATED DRIVING OFFENSES; CLARIFYING THAT SEARCH WARRANTS MAY BE ISSUED FOR BLOOD SAMPLES IF THE OFFENDER HAS A PRIOR REFUSAL OR CONVICTION OR PENDING OFFENSE; REVISING THE IMPLIED CONSENT LAW; PROVIDING THAT A PEACE OFFICER MAY REQUEST A SEARCH WARRANT TO OBTAIN A BLOOD SAMPLE FOR CHEMICAL TESTING; AMENDING SECTIONS 46-5-224, 61-8-402, 61-8-404, 61-8-405, AND 61-8-409, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE.

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

Section 1. Section 46-5-224, MCA, is amended to read:

"46-5-224. What may be seized with search warrant. A warrant may be issued under this section to search for and seize any:

(1) evidence, including blood samples that may yield evidence of any measured amount or detected presence of alcohol or drugs in a person's body when subjected to testing;

(2) contraband; or

(3) person for whose arrest there is probable cause, for whom there has been a warrant of arrest issued, or who is unlawfully restrained."

Section 2. Section 61-8-402, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-8-402. Blood Implied consent -- blood or breath tests for alcohol, drugs, or both -- refusal to submit to test -- administrative license suspension. (1) A person who operates or is in actual physical control of a vehicle upon ways of this state open to the public is considered to have given consent to a test or tests of the person's blood or breath for the purpose of determining any measured amount or detected presence of alcohol or drugs in the person's body.

(2) (a) The test or tests must be administered at the direction of a peace officer when:

(i) the officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the person has been driving or has been in actual physical control of a vehicle upon ways of this state open to the public while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of the two and the person has been placed under arrest for a violation of 61-8-401;

(ii) the person is under the age of 21 and has been placed under arrest for a violation of 61-8-410; or

(iii) the officer has probable cause to believe that the person was driving or in actual physical control of a vehicle:

(A) in violation of 61-8-401 and the person has been involved in a motor vehicle accident or collision resulting in property damage; or

(B) involved in a motor vehicle accident or collision resulting in serious bodily injury, as defined in 45-2-101, or death.

(b) The arresting or investigating officer may designate which test or tests are administered.

(3) A person who is unconscious or who is otherwise in a condition rendering the person incapable of refusal is considered not to have withdrawn the consent provided by subsection (1).

(4) If an arrested person refuses to submit to one or more tests requested and designated by the officer as provided in subsection (2), the refused test or tests may not be given, ~~but~~ except as provided in subsection (5), but the officer shall, on behalf of the department, immediately seize the person's driver's license. The peace officer shall immediately forward the license to the department, along with a report certified under penalty of law stating which of the conditions set forth in subsection (2)(a) provides the basis for the testing request and confirming that the person refused to submit to one or more tests requested and designated by the peace officer. Upon receipt of the report, the department shall suspend the license for the period provided in subsection ~~(6)~~ (7).

(5) If the arrested person has refused to provide a breath, blood, or urine sample under 61-8-409 or this section in a prior investigation in this state or under a substantially similar statute in another jurisdiction or the arrested person has a prior conviction or pending offense for a violation of 45-5-104, 45-5-106, 45-5-205, 61-8-401, or 61-8-406 or a similar statute in another jurisdiction, the officer may apply for a search warrant to be issued pursuant to 46-5-224 to collect a sample of the person's blood for testing.

~~(5)(6)~~ Upon seizure of a driver's license, the peace officer shall issue, on behalf of the department, a temporary driving permit, which is effective 12 hours after issuance and is valid for 5 days following the date of issuance, and shall provide the driver with written notice of the license suspension and the right to a hearing provided in 61-8-403.

~~(6)(7)~~ (a) Except as provided in subsection ~~(6)(b)~~ (7)(b), the following suspension periods are applicable upon refusal to submit to one or more tests:

- (i) upon a first refusal, a suspension of 6 months with no provision for a restricted probationary license;
- (ii) upon a second or subsequent refusal within 5 years of a previous refusal, as determined from the records of the department, a suspension of 1 year with no provision for a restricted probationary license.

(b) If a person who refuses to submit to one or more tests under this section is the holder of a commercial driver's license, in addition to any action taken against the driver's noncommercial driving privileges, the department shall:

- (i) upon a first refusal, suspend the person's commercial driver's license for a 1-year period; and
- (ii) upon a second or subsequent refusal, suspend the person's commercial driver's license for life, subject to department rules adopted to implement federal rules allowing for license reinstatement, if the person is otherwise eligible, upon completion of a minimum suspension period of 10 years. If the person has a prior conviction of a major offense listed in 61-8-802(2) arising from a separate incident, the conviction has the same effect as a previous testing refusal for purposes of this subsection ~~(6)(b)~~ (7)(b).

~~(7)(8)~~ A nonresident driver's license seized under this section must be sent by the department to the licensing authority of the nonresident's home state with a report of the nonresident's refusal to submit to one or more tests.

~~(8)(9)~~ The department may recognize the seizure of a license of a tribal member by a peace officer acting under the authority of a tribal government or an order issued by a tribal court suspending, revoking, or reinstating a license or adjudicating a license seizure if the actions are conducted pursuant to tribal law or regulation requiring alcohol or drug testing of motor vehicle operators and the conduct giving rise to the actions occurred within the exterior boundaries of a federally recognized Indian reservation in this state. Action by the department under this subsection is not reviewable under 61-8-403.

~~(9)(10)~~ A suspension under this section is subject to review as provided in this part.

~~(10)(11)~~ This section does not apply to ~~blood and breath~~ tests, samples, and analyses of blood or breath used for purposes of medical treatment or care of an injured motorist, ~~or~~ related to a lawful seizure for a suspected violation of an offense not in this part, or performed pursuant to a search warrant.

(12) This section does not prohibit the release of information obtained from tests, samples, and analyses of blood or breath for law enforcement purposes as provided in 46-4-301 and 61-8-405(6)."

Section 3. Section 61-8-404, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-8-404. Evidence admissible -- conditions of admissibility. (1) Upon the trial of a criminal action or other proceeding arising out of acts alleged to have been committed by a person in violation of 61-8-401, 61-8-406, 61-8-410, or 61-8-805:

(a) evidence of any measured amount or detected presence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of alcohol and drugs in the person at the time of a test, as shown by an analysis of the person's blood or breath, is admissible. A positive test result does not, in itself, prove that the person was under the influence of a drug or drugs at the time the person was in control of a motor vehicle. A person may not be convicted of a violation of 61-8-401 based upon the presence of a drug or drugs in the person unless some other competent evidence exists that tends to establish that the person was under the influence of a drug or drugs while driving or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state.

(b) a report of the facts and results of one or more tests of a person's blood or breath is admissible in evidence if:

(i) a breath test or preliminary alcohol screening test was performed by a person certified by the forensic sciences division of the department to administer the test;

(ii) a blood sample was analyzed in a laboratory operated or certified by the department or in a laboratory exempt from certification under the rules of the department and the blood was withdrawn from the person by a person competent to do so under 61-8-405(1);

(c) a report of the facts and results of a physical, psychomotor, or physiological assessment of a person is admissible in evidence if it was made by a person trained by the department or by a person who has received training recognized by the department.

(2) If the person under arrest refused to submit to one or more tests ~~as provided in this section under 61-8-402, whether or not a sample was subsequently collected for any purpose,~~ proof of refusal is admissible in any criminal action or proceeding arising out of acts alleged to have been committed while the person was driving or in actual physical control of a vehicle upon the ways of this state open to the public, while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of alcohol and drugs. The trier of fact may infer from the refusal that the person was under the influence. The inference is rebuttable.

(3) The provisions of this part do not limit the introduction of any other competent evidence bearing on

the question of whether the person was under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of alcohol and drugs."

Section 4. Section 61-8-405, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-8-405. Administration of tests. (1) Only a physician, or registered nurse, or other qualified person acting under the supervision and direction of a physician or registered nurse; may, at the request of a peace officer, withdraw blood for the purpose of determining any measured amount or detected presence of alcohol, drugs, or any combination of alcohol and drugs in the person. This limitation does not apply to the sampling of breath.

(2) In addition to any test administered at the direction of a peace officer, a person may request that an independent blood sample be drawn by a physician or registered nurse for the purpose of determining any measured amount or detected presence of alcohol, drugs, or any combination of alcohol and drugs in the person. The peace officer may not unreasonably impede the person's right to obtain an independent blood test. The officer may but has no duty to transport the person to a medical facility or otherwise assist the person in obtaining the test. The cost of an independent blood test is the sole responsibility of the person requesting the test. The failure or inability to obtain an independent test by a person does not preclude the admissibility in evidence of any test given at the direction of a peace officer.

(3) Upon the request of the person tested, full information concerning any test given at the direction of the peace officer must be made available to the person or the person's attorney.

(4) A physician, or registered nurse, or other qualified person acting under the supervision and direction of a physician or registered nurse; does not incur any civil or criminal liability as a result of the proper administering of a blood test when requested in writing by a peace officer to administer a test.

(5) The department in cooperation with any appropriate agency shall adopt uniform rules for the giving of tests and may require certification of training to administer the tests as considered necessary.

(6) If a peace officer has probable cause to believe that a person has violated 61-8-401, 61-8-406, 61-8-410, or 61-8-805 and a sample of blood, breath, urine, or other bodily substance is taken from that person for any reason, a portion of that sample sufficient for analysis must be provided to a peace officer if requested for law enforcement purposes and upon issuance of a subpoena as provided in 46-4-301."

Section 5. Section 61-8-409, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-8-409. Preliminary alcohol screening test. (1) A person who operates or is in actual physical control of a vehicle upon ways of this state open to the public is considered to have given consent to a preliminary alcohol screening test of the person's breath, for the purpose of estimating the person's alcohol concentration, upon the request of a peace officer who has a particularized suspicion that the person was driving or in actual physical control of a vehicle upon ways of this state open to the public while under the influence of alcohol or in violation of 61-8-410.

(2) The person's obligation to submit to a test under 61-8-402 is not satisfied by the person submitting to a preliminary alcohol screening test pursuant to this section.

(3) The peace officer shall inform the person of the right to refuse the test and that the refusal to submit to the preliminary alcohol screening test will result in the suspension for up to 1 year of that person's driver's license.

(4) If the person refuses to submit to a test under this section, a test will not be given except as provided in 61-8-402(5). However, the refusal is sufficient cause to suspend the person's driver's license as provided in 61-8-402.

(5) A hearing as provided for in 61-8-403 must be available. The issues in the hearing must be limited to determining whether a peace officer had a particularized suspicion that the person was driving or in actual physical control of a vehicle upon ways of this state open to the public while under the influence of alcohol or in violation of 61-8-410 and whether the person refused to submit to the test.

(6) The provisions of 61-8-402(3) through ~~(8)~~ (9) that do not conflict with this section are applicable to refusals under this section. If a person refuses a test requested under 61-8-402 and this section for the same incident, the department may not consider each a separate refusal for purposes of suspension under 61-8-402.

(7) A test may not be conducted or requested under this section unless both the peace officer and the instrument used to conduct the preliminary alcohol screening test have been certified by the department pursuant to rules adopted under the authority of 61-8-405(5)."

Section 6. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

Section 7. Applicability. [This act] applies to violations of Title 61, chapter 8, part 4, that occur on or

after [the effective date of this act].

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,
SB 0042, originated in the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2011.

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2011.

SENATE BILL NO. 42
INTRODUCED BY J. SHOCKLEY
BY REQUEST OF THE LAW AND JUSTICE INTERIM COMMITTEE

AN ACT REVISING THE LAWS RELATING TO ALCOHOL-RELATED OR DRUG-RELATED DRIVING OFFENSES; CLARIFYING THAT SEARCH WARRANTS MAY BE ISSUED FOR BLOOD SAMPLES IF THE OFFENDER HAS A PRIOR REFUSAL OR CONVICTION OR PENDING OFFENSE; REVISING THE IMPLIED CONSENT LAW; PROVIDING THAT A PEACE OFFICER MAY REQUEST A SEARCH WARRANT TO OBTAIN A BLOOD SAMPLE FOR CHEMICAL TESTING; AMENDING SECTIONS 46-5-224, 61-8-402, 61-8-404, 61-8-405, AND 61-8-409, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE.