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Director of Driver Services Issuance

In November 2000, a legal opinion was issued regarding the department entering into an agreement with France concerning driver licenses, the legal opinion stated,

Per T.C.A 55-50-203, The department of Safety may execute or make agreements, arrangements, or declarations to carry out the provisions of this chapter with the licensing authorities of other states and the provinces or territories of Canada, and with third parties permitted in 49 C.F.R Part 383.

“Thus it does not appear that the State of Tennessee could enter into an agreement with France concerning driver licenses”

T.C.A. 55-50-304 provides,

Tennessee Code Annotated 55-50-304.....

1(B)(3) Any nonresident who is at least sixteen (16) years of age and who has in immediate possession a **valid driver license** issued to the person in the person's home state or country may operate a motor vehicle in this state or country only as a Class D driver;

Tennessee Code Annotated 55-50-304.....

1(B)(4) Any nonresident who is at least twenty (21) years of age and who has in immediate possession a **valid driver license equivalent** to Tennessee class license issued to the person in the person's home state or country may operate a motor vehicle of a comparable class in this state;

Tennessee Code Annotated 55-50-304.....

5 (A) A nonresident, who *establishes residency in this state*, may operate a motor vehicle in the state for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of establishing the residency; provided, that the nonresident has in the nonresident's immediate possession a *valid driver license* issued by another state or country; and

Tennessee Code Annotated 55-50-304.....

(B) In order to facilitate the growth of international commerce in Tennessee, an individual who is not a citizen of the United States and who is employed in a *managerial or technical position* in this state may, *in connection with employment*, operate a motor vehicle in this state for a period up to six (6) months under a valid driver license issued by another state, country or international body;

Challenges facing the state

- As more international businesses establish companies in the United States, expectation to establish reciprocity agreements with foreign countries will increase
- Determining the validity of an out-of-country driver license
 - Problem Driver Pointer System
 - National Driver License Register
- Determining testing requirements for the foreign countries
 - Knowledge testing
 - Skills testing

Serving Customers from other Countries & Reciprocity

Questions?