SUMMARY: House Bill 121, Printer's Number 126, amends Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for period of disqualification, revocation or suspension of operating privilege; providing for passing and overtaking streetcars and for snow and ice dislodged or falling from moving vehicles; and further providing for ignition interlock.

ANALYSIS: The legislation amends section 1541 of Title 75 to allow those who have been sentenced to a treatment program for DUI to have their licenses restored if they are current on a payment plan for court-imposed fines and costs, as well as fees to the treatment program.

This legislation creates section 3315, entitled “passing and overtaking streetcars.” This section would prohibit drivers of vehicles from overtaking and passing to the left of a streetcar traveling in the same direction if doing so requires the driver to drive in a lane that is normally used by traffic traveling in the opposite direction. In addition, the legislation would prohibit overtaking and passing a streetcar that is stopped to receive or discharge passengers on the side where passengers board or alight until the doors of the streetcar have closed and discharged passengers reach the side of the highway. These provisions would not apply to locations where streetcars operate on tracks that are located within a median section of the roadway separated from the roadway by curbs or other physical barriers.

Section 3720 is added to Title 75 to provide a minimum fine of $200 and a maximum fine of $1,000 to drivers of moving vehicles where snow or ice dislodges or falls striking another pedestrian and causing death or serious bodily injury.

Finally, section 3805 is amended to add subsection (h.1) that expands the mobile installation services of ignition interlock devices to all counties by PENNDOT-approved companies.

This legislation would take effect 60 days following enactment.
FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse fiscal impact on the Motor License Fund.

PREPARED BY: Nate Spade
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 27, 2005