



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2001

LCO No. 6984

Offered by:

REP. EBERLE, 15<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. COCCO, 127<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. CLEARY, 80<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. GAFFEY, 13<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. CIOTTO, 9<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. ANISKOVICH, 12<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. CAPPIELLO, 24<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 7021

File No. 523

Cal. No. 371

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE SUSPENSION OF MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS' LICENSES."**

1 After line 45, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 3. Section 14-100a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
3 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

4 (a) No new passenger motor vehicle may be sold or registered in  
5 this state unless equipped with at least two sets of seat safety belts for  
6 the front and rear seats of the motor vehicle, which belts comply with  
7 the requirements of subsection (b) of this section. The anchorage unit  
8 at the attachment point shall be of such construction, design and  
9 strength as to support a loop load strength of not less than four  
10 thousand pounds for each belt.

11 (b) No seat safety belt may be sold for use in connection with the  
12 operation of a motor vehicle on any highway of this state unless it is so

13 constructed and installed as to have a loop strength through the  
14 complete attachment of not less than four thousand pounds, and the  
15 buckle or closing device shall be of such construction and design that  
16 after it has received the aforesaid loop belt load it can be released with  
17 one hand with a pull of less than forty-five pounds.

18 (c) (1) The operator of and any front seat passenger in a private  
19 passenger motor vehicle, as defined in subsection (e) of section 38a-  
20 363, fire fighting apparatus or a vanpool vehicle equipped with seat  
21 safety belts complying with the provisions of the Code of Federal  
22 Regulations, Title 49, Section 571.209, as amended from time to time,  
23 shall wear such seat safety belt while the vehicle is being operated on  
24 the highways of this state, except that a child under the age of [four]  
25 five years shall be restrained as provided in subsection (d) of this  
26 section. Each operator of such vehicle shall secure or cause to be  
27 secured in a seat safety belt any passenger [four] five years of age or  
28 older and under sixteen years of age.

29 (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not  
30 apply to any person whose physical disability or impairment would  
31 prevent restraint in such safety belt, provided such person obtains a  
32 written statement from a licensed physician containing reasons for  
33 such person's inability to wear such safety belt and including  
34 information concerning the nature and extent of such condition. Such  
35 person shall carry the statement on his or her person or in the motor  
36 vehicle at all times when it is being operated.

37 (3) As used in this subsection, "private passenger motor vehicle"  
38 does not mean an authorized emergency vehicle, other than fire  
39 fighting apparatus, responding to an emergency call or a motor vehicle  
40 operated (A) by a rural letter carrier of the United States postal service  
41 while performing [his] such carrier's official duties, or (B) by a person  
42 engaged in the delivery of newspapers.

43 (4) Failure to wear a seat safety belt shall not be considered as  
44 contributory negligence nor shall such failure be admissible evidence

45 in any civil action.

46 (5) On and after February 1, 1986, any person who violates the  
47 provisions of this subsection shall have committed an infraction and  
48 shall be fined fifteen dollars. Points may not be assessed against the  
49 operator's license of any person convicted of such violation.

50 (d) Any person who transports a child under the age of [four years,  
51 weighing less than forty pounds,] five years in a motor vehicle on the  
52 highways of this state shall provide and require the child to use a child  
53 restraint system approved pursuant to regulations adopted by the  
54 Department of Motor Vehicles in accordance with the provisions of  
55 chapter 54. [Any person who transports a child under the age of four  
56 years, weighing forty or more pounds, in a motor vehicle on the  
57 highways of this state shall either provide and require the child to use  
58 an approved child restraint system or require the child to use a seat  
59 safety belt.] As used in this subsection, "motor vehicle" does not mean  
60 a bus having a tonnage rating of one ton or more. Failure to use a child  
61 restraint system shall not be considered as contributory negligence nor  
62 shall such failure be admissible evidence in any civil action. Any  
63 person who violates the provisions of this subsection shall, for a first  
64 violation, have committed an infraction; for a second violation, be  
65 fined not more than one hundred ninety-nine dollars; and, for a third  
66 or subsequent violation, be guilty of a class A misdemeanor. The  
67 commissioner shall require any person who has committed a first or  
68 second violation of the provisions of this subsection to attend a child  
69 car seat safety course offered or approved by the Department of Motor  
70 Vehicles. The commissioner may, after notice and an opportunity for a  
71 hearing, suspend for a period of not more than two months the motor  
72 vehicle operator's license of any person who fails to attend or  
73 successfully complete the course.

74 (e) The commissioner shall administer the provisions of this  
75 section."