



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Committee Bill No. 5450

LCO No. 4675

* HB05450TRA 032205 *

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE WEARING OF SEAT BELTS BY BACK SEAT PASSENGERS IN A MOTOR VEHICLE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 14-100a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2005*):

4 (c) (1) The operator of and [any front seat] each passenger in a motor
5 vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating not exceeding ten thousand
6 pounds or fire fighting apparatus originally equipped with seat safety
7 belts complying with the provisions of the Code of Federal
8 Regulations, Title 49, Section 571.209, as amended from time to time,
9 shall wear such seat safety belt while the vehicle is being operated on
10 the highways of this state, except that a child under the age of four
11 years shall be restrained as provided in subsection (d) of this section.
12 Each operator of such vehicle shall secure or cause to be secured in a
13 seat safety belt any passenger four years of age or older and under
14 sixteen years of age.

15 (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not

16 apply to (A) any person whose physical disability or impairment
17 would prevent restraint in such safety belt, provided such person
18 obtains a written statement from a licensed physician containing
19 reasons for such person's inability to wear such safety belt and
20 including information concerning the nature and extent of such
21 condition. Such person shall carry the statement on his or her person
22 or in the motor vehicle at all times when it is being operated, or (B) an
23 authorized emergency vehicle, other than fire fighting apparatus,
24 responding to an emergency call or a motor vehicle operated by a rural
25 letter carrier of the United States postal service while performing his or
26 her official duties or by a person engaged in the delivery of
27 newspapers.

28 (3) Failure to wear a seat safety belt shall not be considered as
29 contributory negligence nor shall such failure be admissible evidence
30 in any civil action.

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

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | October 1, 2005 | 14-100a(c) |

TRA *Joint Favorable*