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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 586 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY D. MILLER, ENGLISH, SCHLOSSBERG, MURT, KINSEY,  
V. BROWN, SAMUELSON, NEILSON, DeLUCA, D. COSTA, WARD, THOMAS,  
DONATUCCI AND PASHINSKI, FEBRUARY 23, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 23, 2017

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in other required equipment, further providing for  
3 restraint systems.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 4581(a) of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes, amended June 13, 2016 (P.L.336, No.43),  
8 is amended to read:

9 § 4581. Restraint systems.

10 (a) Occupant protection.--

11 (1) (i) Except as provided under subparagraph (ii), any  
12 person who is operating a passenger car, [Class I truck,  
13 Class II truck,] truck, truck tractor, classic motor  
14 vehicle, antique motor vehicle or motor home and who  
15 transports a child under four years of age anywhere in  
16 the motor vehicle, including the cargo area, shall fasten  
17 such child securely in a child passenger restraint  
18 system, as provided in subsection (d).

1 (ii) Any person who is operating a passenger car,  
2 [Class I truck, Class II truck,] truck, truck tractor,  
3 classic motor vehicle, antique motor vehicle or motor  
4 home and who transports a child under two years of age  
5 anywhere in the motor vehicle shall fasten such child  
6 securely in a rear-facing child passenger restraint  
7 system, to be used until the child outgrows the maximum  
8 weight and height limits designated by the manufacturer,  
9 as provided in subsection (d).

10 (iii) This paragraph shall apply to all persons  
11 while they are operators of motor vehicles where a  
12 seating position is available which is equipped with a  
13 seat safety belt or other means to secure the systems or  
14 where the seating position was originally equipped with  
15 seat safety belts.

16 (1.1) Any person who is operating a passenger car,  
17 [Class I truck, Class II truck,] truck, truck tractor,  
18 classic motor vehicle, antique motor vehicle or motor home  
19 and who transports a child four years of age or older but  
20 under eight years of age anywhere in the motor vehicle,  
21 including the cargo area, shall fasten such child securely in  
22 a fastened safety seat belt system and in an appropriately  
23 fitting child booster seat, as provided in subsection (d).

24 This paragraph shall apply to all persons while they are  
25 operators of motor vehicles where a seating position is  
26 available which is equipped with a seat safety belt or other  
27 means to secure the systems or where the seating position was  
28 originally equipped with seat safety belts.

29 (2) (i) The driver of a passenger car, [Class I truck,  
30 Class II truck] truck, truck tractor or motor home

1 operated in this Commonwealth shall:

2 (A) if under 18 years of age, be secured in a  
3 properly adjusted and fastened safety seat belt  
4 system; and

5 (B) secure or cause to be secured in a properly  
6 adjusted and fastened safety seat belt every vehicle  
7 occupant eight years of age or older but under 18  
8 years of age.

9 (ii) Except for children under 18 years of age and  
10 except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (1.1) and  
11 subparagraph (i), each driver and front seat occupant of  
12 a passenger car, [Class I truck, Class II truck,] truck,  
13 truck tractor, classic motor vehicle, antique motor  
14 vehicle or motor home operated in this Commonwealth shall  
15 wear a properly adjusted and fastened safety seat belt  
16 system.

17 (iii) This paragraph shall not apply to:

18 (A) A driver or front seat occupant of any  
19 vehicle manufactured before July 1, 1966.

20 (B) A driver or front seat occupant who  
21 possesses a written verification from a physician  
22 that he is unable to wear a safety seat belt system  
23 for physical or medical reasons, or from a  
24 psychiatrist or other specialist qualified to make an  
25 informed judgment that he is unable to wear a safety  
26 seat belt system for psychological reasons.

27 (C) A rural letter carrier while operating any  
28 motor vehicle during the performance of his duties as  
29 a United States postal service rural letter carrier  
30 only between the first and last delivery points.

1           (D) A driver who makes frequent stops and is  
2 traveling less than 15 miles per hour for the purpose  
3 of delivering goods or services while in the  
4 performance of his duties and only between the first  
5 and last delivery points.

6           (iv) A violation of this paragraph shall not be  
7 subject to the assessment of any points under section  
8 1535 (relating to schedule of convictions and points).

9           (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1503(c)  
10 (2.1) (relating to persons ineligible for licensing; license  
11 issuance to minors; junior driver's license), a driver who is  
12 under 18 years of age may not operate a motor vehicle in  
13 which the number of passengers exceeds the number of  
14 available safety seat belts in the vehicle.

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16 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.