

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2801

To require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring all new passenger motor vehicles to be equipped with a child safety alert system, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 2017

Mr. RYAN of Ohio (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring all new passenger motor vehicles to be equipped with a child safety alert system, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Helping Overcome
5 Trauma for Children Alone in Rear Seats Act” or the
6 “HOT CARS Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. CHILD SAFETY.**

2 (a) AMENDMENT.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 323 of title 49,
4 United States Code, is amended by adding after sec-
5 tion 32304A the following new section:

6 **“§ 32304B. Child safety**

7 “(a) RULE REQUIRED.—Not later than 2 years after
8 the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall
9 issue a final rule requiring all new passenger motor vehi-
10 cles weighing less than 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight
11 to be equipped with a system for rear seating positions
12 to alert the operator to check rear designated seating posi-
13 tions after the vehicle motor is deactivated by the oper-
14 ator. The means shall include a distinct auditory and vis-
15 ual alert that may be combined with a haptic alert, and
16 shall be activated after the vehicle motor is deactivated
17 by the operator.

18 “(b) PHASE-IN.—The rule issued pursuant to sub-
19 section (a) shall require full compliance with the rule be-
20 ginning on September 1st of the calendar year that begins
21 2 years after the date on which the final rule is issued.

22 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23 “(1) PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term
24 ‘passenger motor vehicle’ has the meaning given that
25 term in section 32101.

1 “(2) REAR DESIGNATED SEATING POSITION.—
 2 The term ‘rear designated seating position’ means
 3 any designated seating position that is rearward of
 4 the front seat.

5 “(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
 6 the Secretary of Transportation.”.

7 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for
 8 chapter 323 of title 49, United States Code, is
 9 amended by striking the item relating to section
 10 32304A and inserting the following new items:

“32304A. Consumer tire information and standards.

“32304B. Child safety.”.

11 (b) AWARENESS OF CHILDREN IN MOTOR VEHI-
 12 CLES.—Section 402 of title 23, United States Code, is
 13 amended by inserting after subsection (k) the following
 14 new subsection:

15 “(1) UNATTENDED PASSENGERS.—A State shall use
 16 a portion of the amounts received under this section to
 17 carry out a program to educate the public on the risks
 18 of leaving a child or unattended passenger in a vehicle
 19 after the vehicle motor is deactivated by the operator. A
 20 State does not need to carry out the program through its
 21 transportation or highway safety office.”.

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