

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0002

Child restraint-amendments.

Sponsored by: Joint Transportation and Highways Interim
Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the Child Safety Restraint Act; limiting
2 the definition of "passenger vehicle" as specified;
3 authorizing a child to be a passenger in the front seat of
4 a vehicle under certain conditions; modifying size and
5 weight provisions requiring the use of child restraints as
6 specified; providing a definition; and providing for an
7 effective date.

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9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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11 **Section 1.** W.S. 31-5-1302(a)(v) and 31-5-1303(a) are
12 amended to read:

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14 **31-5-1302. Definitions.**

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16 (a) As used in this article:

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(v) "Passenger vehicle" means a motor vehicle, ~~excluding emergency and law enforcement vehicles,~~ designed to carry people and that was equipped with safety belts at the time of manufacture, ~~+~~ excluding:

(A) Emergency and law enforcement vehicles;

(B) School buses as defined under W.S. 31-5-102(a)(xlii), including buses registered to a private school or church used to transport children to or from school or church or in connection with school or church activities;

(C) Buses, or other vehicles designed and used for public transportation, whether intrastate or interstate, that were not equipped with safety belts at the time of manufacture.

31-5-1303. Child safety restraint system; required use; exception.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section, no person shall operate a passenger vehicle

1 in this state unless each child who is a passenger in that
2 vehicle and who ~~is eight (8) years of age or under, and has~~
3 not reached his ninth birthday or who weighs eighty (80)
4 pounds or less, is properly secured in a child safety
5 restraint system in a seat of the vehicle other than the
6 front seat, except if the vehicle is only equipped with one
7 (1) row of seats, or if all safety belts in the rows of
8 seats behind the front seat are in use by other child
9 passengers in the vehicle, the child may be properly
10 secured in a child safety restraint system in the front
11 passenger seat of the vehicle. Any child who has reached
12 his ninth birthday or who weighs more than eighty (80)
13 pounds shall not be required to be in a child safety
14 restraint system while traveling in a passenger vehicle in
15 this state, except that if the lap and shoulder belts of
16 the vehicle will not fit properly across the collarbone,
17 chest and hips of the child and may pose a danger to the
18 neck, face or abdominal area of the child in the event of a
19 crash or sudden stop, the child shall be secured in an
20 appropriate child restraint system which meets standards
21 prescribed by 49 C.F.R. 571.213.

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1 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
4 Constitution.

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(END)