

- Administration
- Bureau of Motor Vehicles
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Booster Seat Bill Update: Substitute House Bill 320

Governor Ted Strickland signed Substitute House Bill 320 into law on Tuesday, Jan. 6.

A six-month warning period starts on October 7, 2009. **Law enforcement will issue warnings only for the first six months. Full enforcement, with citations, will begin on April 7, 2010.** ODPS will continue to work closely with our safety partners to provide educational information regarding the changes to the law during this implementation period.

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires any child who is less than eight years old and less than four feet, nine inches tall to be secured in a booster seat when traveling in a motor vehicle if the child is not otherwise required to be secured in a child restraint system and designates that this offense is a "secondary" traffic violation.
- Specifies that the child restraint requirements do not apply when an emergency exists that threatens the life of any person operating or occupying a motor vehicle that is being used to transport a child subject to the restraint provisions.
- Provides that the child restraint provisions do not apply to a person operating a motor vehicle who has an affidavit signed by a licensed physician or chiropractor that states that the child who otherwise would be required to be restrained has a physical impairment that makes use of a child restraint system, booster seat, or occupant restraining device impossible or impractical.
- Deems it to be a single violation if the operator of a motor vehicle, at the same time, on the same day, and at the same location, fails to properly secure more than one child in a required child restraint system, booster seat, or occupant restraining device.
- Sets the fine for a violation of the child restraint requirements at not less than \$25 nor more than \$75.

For more detailed information on Substitute House Bill 320:

<http://www.lsc.state.oh.us/analyses127/h0320-rs-127.pdf>

Mission Statement

"to save lives, reduce injuries and economic loss, to administer Ohio's motor vehicle laws and to preserve the safety and well being of all citizens with the most cost-effective and service-oriented methods available."

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