

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 181

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRASS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

MTR VEHICLE/SEAT BELTS: Provides relative to safety belt use in certain vehicles

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:295.1(A)(1), (3), and (B), relative to safety belt use in  
3 passenger trucks; to increase the weight limit for vehicles required to use safety  
4 belts; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 32:295.1(A)(1), (3), and (B) are hereby amended and reenacted to  
7 read as follows:

8 §295.1. Safety belt use; tags indicating exemption

9 A.(1) Each driver of a passenger car, van, sports utility vehicle, or truck  
10 having a gross weight of ten twenty-six thousand pounds or less, ~~commonly referred~~  
11 ~~to as a pickup truck~~, in this state shall have a safety belt properly fastened about his  
12 or her body at all times when the vehicle is in forward motion. The provisions of this  
13 Section shall not apply to those cars, vans, sports utility vehicles, or pickups  
14 manufactured prior to January 1, 1981.

15 \* \* \*

16 (3) Each driver of a passenger car, van, sports utility vehicle, or truck having  
17 a gross weight of ten twenty-six thousand pounds or less, ~~commonly referred to as~~  
18 ~~a pickup truck~~, shall not transport more persons than there are safety belts available  
19 in the vehicle.

1           B. Except as provided by R.S. 32:295 for children under the age of thirteen  
2           or as otherwise provided by law, each occupant of a passenger car, van, sports utility  
3           vehicle, or truck having a gross weight of ~~ten~~ twenty-six thousand pounds or less;  
4           ~~commonly referred to as a pickup truck~~, in this state shall have a safety belt properly  
5           fastened about his or her body at all times when the vehicle is in forward motion.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 181 Original

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Brass

**Abstract:** Increases the weight limit for vehicles required to have safety belts.

Present law requires each driver of a passenger car, van, sports utility vehicle, or truck having a gross weight of 10,000 pounds or less, commonly referred to as a pick-up truck, to have their safety belts properly fastened about his or her body at all times when the vehicle is in forward motion.

Proposed law increases the weight limit of the trucks from 10,000 pounds to 26,000 pounds. Removes colloquial reference to a truck and expands the application of the law beyond solely pick-up trucks.

Present law restricts each driver of a passenger car, van, sports utility vehicle, or truck having a gross weight of 10,000 pounds or less, commonly referred to as a pick-up truck, from transporting more persons than there are safety belts available in the vehicle.

Proposed law increases the weight limit of the trucks from 10,000 pounds to 26,000 pounds. Removes colloquial reference to a truck and expands the application of the law beyond solely pick-up trucks.

Present law requires each occupant of a passenger car, van, sports utility vehicle, or truck having a gross weight of 10,000 pounds or less, commonly referred to as a pick-up truck, to have a safety belt properly fastened about his or her body at all times when the vehicle is in forward motion.

Proposed law increases the weight limit of the trucks from 10,000 pounds to 26,000 pounds. Removes colloquial reference to a truck and expands the application of the law beyond solely pick-up trucks.

(Amends R.S. 32:295.1(A)(1), (3), and (B))