

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 560

To enhance disclosure of automobile safety information.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 8, 2005

Mr. DEWINE (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To enhance disclosure of automobile safety information.

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 “Stars on Cars Act of
5 2005”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT OF AUTOMOBILE INFORMATION DIS-**
7 **CLOSURE ACT.**

8 (a) SAFETY LABELING REQUIREMENT.—Section 3 of
9 the Automobile Information Disclosure Act (15 U.S.C.
10 1232) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (e), by striking “and” at the
2 end;

3 (2) in subsection (f)—

4 (A) in paragraph (3), by inserting “and”
5 after the semicolon; and

6 (B) by striking the period at the end and
7 inserting a semicolon; and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(g) if 1 or more safety ratings for such automobile
10 have been assigned and formally published or released by
11 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
12 under the New Car Assessment Program, information
13 about safety ratings that—

14 “(1) includes a graphic depiction of the number
15 of stars, or other applicable rating, that corresponds
16 to each such assigned safety rating displayed in a
17 clearly differentiated fashion indicating the max-
18 imum possible safety rating;

19 “(2) refers to frontal impact crash tests, side
20 impact crash tests, and rollover resistance tests
21 (whether or not such automobile has been assigned
22 a safety rating for such tests);

23 “(3) contains information describing the nature
24 and meaning of the crash test data presented and a

1 reference to additional vehicle safety resources, in-
2 cluding <http://www.safercar.gov>; and

3 “(4) is presented in a legible, visible, and
4 prominent fashion and covers at least—

5 “(A) 8 percent of the total area of the
6 label; or

7 “(B) an area with a minimum length of
8 4½ inches and a minimum height of 3½
9 inches; and

10 “(h) if an automobile has not been tested by the Na-
11 tional Highway Traffic Safety Administration under the
12 New Car Assessment Program, or safety ratings for such
13 automobile have not been assigned in one or more rating
14 categories, a statement to that effect.”.

15 (b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than January 1, 2006,
16 the Secretary of Transportation shall issue regulations to
17 implement the labeling requirements under subsections (g)
18 and (h) of section 3 of the Automobile Information Dislo-
19 sure Act, as added by subsection (a).

20 (c) APPLICABILITY.—The labeling requirements
21 under subsections (g) and (h) of section 3 of such Act
22 (as added by subsection (a)), and the regulations pre-
23 scribed under subsection (b), shall apply to new auto-
24 mobiles delivered on or after—

1 (1) September 1, 2006, if the regulations under
2 subsection (b) are prescribed not later than August
3 31, 2005; or

4 (2) September 1, 2007, if the regulations under
5 subsection (b) are prescribed after August 31, 2005.

6 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
8 retary of Transportation, to accelerate the testing proc-
9 esses and increasing the number of vehicles tested under
10 the New Car Assessment Program of the National High-
11 way Traffic Safety Administration—

12 (1) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

13 (2) \$8,134,065 for fiscal year 2007;

14 (3) \$8,418,760 for fiscal year 2008;

15 (4) \$8,713,410 for fiscal year 2009; and

16 (5) \$9,018,385 for fiscal year 2010.

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