

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 694

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations to reduce the incidence of child injury and death occurring inside or outside of light motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2007

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. REED, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations to reduce the incidence of child injury and death occurring inside or outside of light motor vehicles, 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 “Cameron Gulbransen
5 Kids and Cars Safety Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. RULEMAKING REGARDING CHILD SAFETY.**

2 (a) **POWER WINDOW SAFETY.**—Not later than 18
3 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
4 Secretary of Transportation (referred to in this Act as the
5 “Secretary”) shall issue regulations, applicable to light
6 motor vehicles, requiring power windows and panels to
7 automatically reverse direction when they detect an ob-
8 struction to prevent children from being trapped, injured,
9 or killed.

10 (b) **REARWARD VISIBILITY.**—Not later than 24
11 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
12 Secretary shall issue regulations, applicable to light motor
13 vehicles, requiring a rearward visibility performance
14 standard that provides drivers with a means for detecting
15 the presence of a person or object behind the vehicle to
16 prevent death and injury resulting from backing incidents,
17 particularly incidents involving small children and disabled
18 persons.

19 (c) **PHASE-IN PERIOD.**—

20 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The regulations issued pur-
21 suant to subsections (a) and (b) shall require—

22 (A) a phase-in period, as determined by
23 the Secretary, for compliance with the regula-
24 tions, which period shall commence not later
25 than 6 months after the date on which final
26 rules are issued; and

1 (B) that new light motor vehicles manufac-
2 tured after the date that is 3½ years after the
3 issuance of the final rule shall comply with such
4 regulations.

5 (2) PHASE-IN PRIORITIES.—In requiring the
6 phase-in of rearward visibility performance regula-
7 tions under this subsection, the Secretary shall con-
8 sider whether to give priority during the phase-in to
9 types of light motor vehicles that have a compara-
10 tively larger or longer rear blind zone. If the Sec-
11 retary determines that any type of light motor vehi-
12 cles should be given priority, the Secretary shall
13 issue regulations that specify—

14 (A) which type or types of light motor ve-
15 hicles shall be phased-in first; and

16 (B) the percentages in which such light
17 motor vehicles shall be phased-in.

18 (d) PREVENTING VEHICLES FROM ROLLING
19 AWAY.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 24 months
21 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
22 retary shall issue regulations to require light motor
23 vehicles that are equipped with an automatic trans-
24 mission that includes a “Park” position to have a
25 system that requires the service brake to be de-

1 pressed before the transmission can be shifted out of
2 “Park”. This system shall function in any starting
3 system key position in which the transmission can be
4 shifted out of “Park”.

5 (2) APPLICABILITY.—The regulation issued
6 under paragraph (1) shall apply to light motor vehi-
7 cles manufactured on or after September 1, 2010.

8 (3) PUBLICATION OF NONCOMPLIANT VEHI-
9 CLES.—

10 (A) INFORMATION SUBMISSION.—Not later
11 than 60 days after the date of the enactment of
12 this Act, for the current model year, and annu-
13 ally thereafter through 2010, each motor vehi-
14 cle manufacturer shall submit to the Secretary
15 the make and model of light motor vehicles that
16 are equipped with automatic transmissions that
17 do not comply with the regulations required
18 under paragraph (1).

19 (B) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 30
20 days after receiving the information submitted
21 under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall
22 publish and otherwise make available to the
23 public the make and model of the light motor
24 vehicles that do not comply with the regulations
25 required under paragraph (1). Any vehicle not

1 included in the publication under this subpara-
2 graph will be assumed to comply with the regu-
3 lations issued under paragraph (1).

4 (e) DATABASE ON INJURIES AND DEATHS IN NON-
5 TRAFFIC, NONCRASH EVENTS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months
7 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
8 retary shall establish and maintain a database of in-
9 juries and deaths in nontraffic, noncrash events in-
10 volving light motor vehicles.

11 (2) CONTENTS.—The database established pur-
12 suant to paragraph (1) shall include information re-
13 garding—

14 (A) the number, types, and causes of inju-
15 ries and deaths resulting from the events de-
16 scribed in paragraph (1);

17 (B) the make, model, and model year of
18 light motor vehicles involved in such events; and

19 (C) other variables that the Secretary de-
20 termines will enhance the value of the database.

21 (3) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall make
22 the information contained in the database estab-
23 lished pursuant to paragraph (1) available to the
24 public.

25 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) LIGHT MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term “light
2 motor vehicle” means a motor vehicle, other than a
3 motorcycle, with a gross vehicle weight rating of not
4 more than 10,000 pounds.

5 (2) REAR BLIND ZONE.—The term “rear blind
6 zone” means the area behind a light motor vehicle
7 which the driver cannot see using the vehicle mirrors
8 and windows provided as original equipment.

9 **SEC. 3. CHILD SAFETY INFORMATION PROGRAM.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
11 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall pro-
12 vide information about hazards to children in nontraffic,
13 noncrash incident situations by—

14 (1) supplementing an existing consumer infor-
15 mation program relating to child safety; or

16 (2) creating a new consumer information pro-
17 gram relating to child safety.

18 (b) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the
19 program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

20 (1) utilize information collected under section
21 2(e) regarding nontraffic, noncrash injuries, and
22 other relevant data from private organizations, to es-
23 tablish priorities for the program;

24 (2) address ways in which parents and care-
25 givers can reduce risks to small children arising

1 from backover incidents, hyperthermia in closed ve-
2 hicles, accidental actuation of power windows, and
3 any other risks that the Secretary determines should
4 be addressed; and

5 (3) make information related to the program
6 available to the public through the Internet and
7 other means.

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