



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 7196

January Session, 2019



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S
RECOMMENDATION REGARDING SEAT BELTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (c) of section 14-
2 100a of the general statutes are repealed and the following is
3 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

4 (c) (1) The operator of and any [front seat] passenger in any motor
5 vehicle or fire fighting apparatus originally equipped with seat safety
6 belts complying with the provisions of 49 CFR 571.209, as amended
7 from time to time, shall wear such seat safety belt while the vehicle is
8 being operated on any highway, except as follows:

9 (A) A child under eight years of age shall be restrained as provided
10 in subsection (d) of this section; and

11 (B) The operator of such vehicle shall secure or cause to be secured
12 in a seat safety belt any passenger eight years of age or older and
13 under sixteen years of age. [; and]

14 [(C) If the operator of such vehicle is under eighteen years of age,
15 such operator and each passenger in such vehicle shall wear such seat
16 safety belt while the vehicle is being operated on any highway.]

17 (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not
 18 apply to (A) any person whose physical disability or impairment
 19 would prevent restraint in such safety belt, provided such person
 20 obtains a written statement from a licensed physician or a licensed
 21 advanced practice registered nurse containing reasons for such
 22 person's inability to wear such safety belt and including information
 23 concerning the nature and extent of such condition. Such person shall
 24 carry the statement on his or her person or in the motor vehicle at all
 25 times when it is being operated, [or] (B) an authorized emergency
 26 vehicle, other than fire fighting apparatus, responding to an
 27 emergency call or a motor vehicle operated by a rural letter carrier of
 28 the United States postal service while performing his or her official
 29 duties or by a person engaged in the delivery of newspapers, (C) any
 30 passenger on a bus, as defined in 49 USC 30127, or (D) a vehicle
 31 manufactured prior to January 1, 1968.

32 Sec. 2. Section 54-33m of the general statutes is repealed and the
 33 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

34 The failure of an operator of, or [front seat] passenger in, a private
 35 passenger motor vehicle or vanpool vehicle to wear a seat safety belt as
 36 required by section 14-100a, as amended by this act, shall not
 37 constitute probable cause for a law enforcement official to conduct a
 38 search of such vehicle and its contents.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	14-100a(c)(1) and (2)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	54-33m

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*