



ARIZONA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY

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NEWS RELEASE

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HB 2154 BOOSTER SEAT LAW

BOOSTER SEAT LAW TAKING EFFECT TODAY THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 2012

PHOENIX – Today a new law takes effect that requires all children up to the age of 8 to be in a child restraint system. "**Today is a tremendous day for safety in Arizona,**" said Alberto Gutier, Director of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety. "**This bill will help protect the lives of our most precious cargo, our children and grandchildren, and is another step forward in advancing safety measures in Arizona.**"

This bill makes it a primary offense for a driver not to have a child, or children, under the age of eight properly restrained in an appropriate child restraint system (such as a booster seat). A person found to be in violation of A.R.S. § 28-907 will be subject to a \$50 penalty, which can be waived if the person equips the vehicle with a booster seat or attends a "Children are Priceless Passengers" (CAPP) class, funded by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety.

"**Each year a number of children under the age of 8 are killed in motor vehicle collisions in Arizona,**" said Director Gutier. "**With this law now on the books, we are confident the number of children injured and killed in car crashes decreases as we educate parents and guardians to properly fasten children in child restraints and booster seats.**"

Parents can find more information on proper child restraint seats by visiting the Governor's Office of Highway Safety website at www.azgohs.gov.

Key Provisions of HB2154 include:

- Requires the operator of a motor vehicle to require each passenger who is at least five years of age, but under eight years of age, and who is not more than four feet nine inches tall to be restrained in a child restraint system.
- Requires a law enforcement officer who stops a vehicle in apparent violation of this section to determine from the driver the age and height of the child in the vehicle and to assess whether the child in the vehicle should be in a child restraint system.
- Defines *child restraint system* as an add-on child restraint system, a built in child restraint system, a factory-installed built in child restraint system, a rear facing child restraint system or a booster seat as defined in federal regulations.
- Specifies that this section does not apply to a person who operates an authorized emergency vehicle that is transporting a child for medical care.

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