

(2) The Secretary may authorize the sale, offer for sale, introduction for sale, or delivery for introduction in interstate commerce, of a regrooved tire or a motor vehicle equipped with regrooved tires if the Secretary decides the tires are designed and made in a way consistent with section 30101 of this title. A person may not sell, offer for sale, introduce for sale, or deliver for introduction in interstate commerce, a regrooved tire or a vehicle equipped with regrooved tires unless authorized by the Secretary.

(b) UNIFORM QUALITY GRADING SYSTEM, NOMENCLATURE, AND MARKETING PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall prescribe through standards a uniform quality grading system for motor vehicle tires to help consumers make an informed choice when purchasing tires. The Secretary also shall cooperate with industry and the Federal Trade Commission to the greatest extent practicable to eliminate deceptive and confusing tire nomenclature and marketing practices. A tire standard or regulation prescribed under this chapter supersedes an order or administrative interpretation of the Commission.

(c) MAXIMUM LOAD STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall require a motor vehicle to be equipped with tires that meet maximum load standards when the vehicle is loaded with a reasonable amount of luggage and the total number of passengers the vehicle is designed to carry. The vehicle shall be equipped with those tires by the manufacturer or by the first purchaser when the vehicle is first bought in good faith other than for resale.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 956; Pub. L. 105–178, title VII, §7106(b), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 467.)

#### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
30123(a) .....	15:1421 (1st sentence).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89–563, §§ 201–203, 204(c), 205, 80 Stat. 728, 729.
30123(b) .....	15:1421 (2d sentence).	
30123(c) .....	15:1421 (last sentence).	
30123(d) .....	15:1424(a).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89–563, §204(a), 80 Stat. 729; re-stated Oct. 27, 1974, Pub. L. 93–492, §110(c), 88 Stat. 1484.
30123(e) .....	15:1424(c). 15:1423. 15:1425.	
30123(f) .....	15:1422.	

In subsections (a) and (d)(2), the words “section 30101 of this title” are substituted for “the purposes of this chapter” as being more precise.

In subsection (a), the words “to a motor vehicle safety standard prescribed under this chapter” are substituted for “In all standards for . . . established under subchapter I of this chapter . . . thereto” for consistency and because of the restatement.

In subsection (b)(1)(A) and (B), the word “suitable” is omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b)(1)(C), the words “for a tire containing” are substituted for “unless the tire contains . . . in which case it shall also contain” to eliminate unnecessary words. The word “allowing” is substituted for “which would permit” for consistency.

In subsection (b)(3), the word “actual” is omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b)(5)(A), the word “statement” is substituted for “recital” for clarity. The words “complies

with” are substituted for “conforms to”, the words “prescribed under this chapter” are substituted for “Federal”, and the word “or” is substituted for “except that in lieu of such recital”, for consistency.

In subsection (b)(5)(B), the word “appropriate” is omitted as surplus.

In subsection (d)(2), the words “by order” are omitted as surplus. The words “a regrooved tire or a motor vehicle equipped with regrooved tires” are substituted for “any tire or motor vehicle equipped with any tire which has been regrooved” for consistency. The words “A person may not . . . unless authorized by the Secretary” are substituted for “No person shall” for clarity and consistency in the revised title. The word “introduce” is substituted for “introduction” after “or” to correct a mistake.

In subsection (e), the words “The Secretary shall prescribe through standards” are substituted for “within two years after September 9, 1966, the Secretary shall, through standards established under subchapter I of this chapter, prescribe by order, and publish in the Federal Register” in 15:1423 to eliminate unnecessary and executed words. The text of 15:1423 (2d sentence) is omitted as executed. The last sentence is substituted for 15:1425 to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (f), the words “In standards established under subchapter I of this chapter” and “fully” are omitted as surplus. The words “The vehicle shall be equipped” are added for clarity.

#### AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105–178 redesignated subsecs. (d) to (f) as (a) to (c), respectively, and struck out former subsecs. (a) to (c), which related to labeling requirements, contents of label, and additional information that may be required, respectively.

#### IMPROVED TIRE INFORMATION

Pub. L. 106–414, §11, Nov. 1, 2000, 114 Stat. 1806, provided that:

“(a) TIRE LABELING.—Within 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 1, 2000], the Secretary of Transportation shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding to improve the labeling of tires required by section 30123 of title 49, United States Code[,] to assist consumers in identifying tires that may be the subject of a decision under section 30118(b) [of title 49] or a notice required under section 30118(c). The Secretary shall complete the rulemaking not later than June 1, 2002.

“(b) INFLATION LEVELS AND LOAD LIMITS.—In the rulemaking initiated under subsection (a), the Secretary may take whatever additional action is appropriate to ensure that the public is aware of the importance of observing motor vehicle tire load limits and maintaining proper tire inflation levels for the safe operation of a motor vehicle. Such additional action may include a requirement that the manufacturer of motor vehicles provide the purchasers of the motor vehicles information on appropriate tire inflation levels and load limits if the Secretary determines that requiring such manufacturers to provide such information is the most appropriate way such information can be provided.”

#### TIRE PRESSURE WARNING

Pub. L. 106–414, §13, Nov. 1, 2000, 114 Stat. 1806, provided that: “Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 1, 2000], the Secretary of Transportation shall complete a rulemaking for a regulation to require a warning system in new motor vehicles to indicate to the operator when a tire is significantly under inflated. Such requirement shall become effective not later than 2 years after the date of the completion of such rulemaking.”

#### § 30124. Nonuse of safety belts

A motor vehicle safety standard prescribed under this chapter may not require a manufacturer to comply with the standard by using a

safety belt interlock designed to prevent starting or operating a motor vehicle if an occupant is not using a safety belt.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 957; Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title I, §31202(a)(2), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 757.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
30124 .....	15:1410b.	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-563, 80 Stat. 718, §125; added Oct. 27, 1974, Pub. L. 93-492, §109, 88 Stat. 1482.

The text of 15:1410b(a) and (c)-(e) is omitted as obsolete. The text of 15:1410b(b)(2) and (3) and (f)(2) and (3) is omitted as unnecessary because of the restatement. The words "After the effective date of the amendment prescribed under subsection (a) of this section" are omitted as executed. The words "prescribed under this chapter" are substituted for "Federal" for consistency in this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

2012—Pub. L. 112-141 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: "A motor vehicle safety standard prescribed under this chapter may not require or allow a manufacturer to comply with the standard by using a safety belt interlock designed to prevent starting or operating a motor vehicle if an occupant is not using a safety belt or a buzzer designed to indicate a safety belt is not in use, except a buzzer that operates only during the 8-second period after the ignition is turned to the 'start' or 'on' position."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-141 effective Oct. 1, 2012, see section 3(a) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 2012 Amendment note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.

§ 30125. Schoolbuses and schoolbus equipment

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) "schoolbus" means a passenger motor vehicle designed to carry a driver and more than 10 passengers, that the Secretary of Transportation decides is likely to be used significantly to transport preprimary, primary, and secondary school students to or from school or an event related to school.

(2) "schoolbus equipment" means equipment designed primarily for a schoolbus or manufactured or sold to replace or improve a system, part, or component of a schoolbus or as an accessory or addition to a schoolbus.

(b) STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall prescribe motor vehicle safety standards for schoolbuses and schoolbus equipment manufactured in, or imported into, the United States. Standards shall include minimum performance requirements for—

- (1) emergency exits;
- (2) interior protection for occupants;
- (3) floor strength;
- (4) seating systems;
- (5) crashworthiness of body and frame (including protection against rollover hazards);
- (6) vehicle operating systems;
- (7) windows and windshields; and
- (8) fuel systems.

(c) TEST DRIVING BY MANUFACTURERS.—The Secretary may require by regulation a schoolbus

to be test-driven by a manufacturer before introduction in commerce.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 957.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
30125(a) .....	15:1391(14), (15).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-563, 80 Stat. 718, §102(14), (15); added Oct. 27, 1974, Pub. L. 93-492, §201, 88 Stat. 1484.
30125(b) .....	15:1392(i)(1).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-563, 80 Stat. 718, §103(i)(1), (2); added Oct. 27, 1974, Pub. L. 93-492, §202, 88 Stat. 1484; July 8, 1976, Pub. L. 94-346, §2, 90 Stat. 815.
30125(c) .....	15:1392(i)(2). 15:1397(a)(1)(F).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-563, 80 Stat. 718, §108(a)(1)(F); added Oct. 27, 1974, Pub. L. 93-492, §203, 88 Stat. 1485.

In subsection (a)(1), the words "the purpose of" are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (a)(2), the words "any similar part or component" are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b), before clause (1), the text of 15:1392(i)(1)(A) (1st sentence) and (B) (words before 2d comma) is omitted as executed. The word "prescribe" is substituted for "promulgate", and the word "Federal" is omitted, for consistency. The words "Such proposed standards" and "those aspects of performance set out in clauses (i) through (viii) of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph" are omitted because of the restatement. The word "requirements" is substituted for "standards" to avoid using "standards" in 2 different ways. The text of 15:1392(i)(1)(B) (last 6 words) is omitted as executed.

In subsection (c), the text of 15:1397(a)(1)(F) is omitted as unnecessary because of the restatement.

§ 30126. Used motor vehicles

To ensure a continuing and effective national safety program, it is the policy of the United States Government to encourage and strengthen State inspection of used motor vehicles. Therefore, the Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe uniform motor vehicle safety standards applicable to all used motor vehicles. The standards shall be stated in terms of motor vehicle safety performance.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 958.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
30126 .....	15:1397(b)(1) (2d-last sentences).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-563, §108(b)(1) (2d-last sentences), 80 Stat. 722.

The words "In order" are omitted as surplus. The words "United States Government" are substituted for "Congress" for clarity and consistency in the revised title. The words "Therefore, the Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe uniform motor vehicle safety standards applicable to all used motor vehicles" are substituted for 15:1397(b)(1) (4th sentence) to eliminate unnecessary and executed words. The text of 15:1397(b)(1) (last sentence) is omitted as unnecessary because of 5:ch. 5, subch. II. The text of 15:1397(b)(1) (3d sentence) is omitted as executed.

§ 30127. Automatic occupant crash protection and seat belt use

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) "bus" means a motor vehicle with motive power (except a trailer) designed to carry more than 10 individuals.