

In subsection (b), the words “that knowingly and willfully violates this chapter” are substituted for “knowingly and willfully commits any act or causes to be done any act that violates any provision of this subchapter or knowingly and willfully omits to do any act or causes to be omitted any act that is required by such provision” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “or a regulation prescribed or order issued under this chapter” are substituted for “No transferor shall violate any rule prescribed under this section” in 15:1988 for consistency in the revised title and because “rule” is synonymous with “regulation”. The words “fined under title 18” are substituted for “fined not more than \$50,000” for consistency with title 18. The words “an act in violation of” are substituted for “any of the acts or practices constituting in whole or in part a violation of” to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsections (c) and (d), the word “enjoin” is substituted for “restrain” for consistency.

In subsection (c), the words “The United States district courts shall have jurisdiction” are omitted because of 28:1331. The words “for cause shown and subject to the provisions of rule 65(a) and (b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure” are omitted as surplus because the rules apply in the absence of an exemption from them. The words “the violation occurred” are substituted for “wherein any act, omission, or transaction constituting the violation occurred”, and the word “resides” is substituted for “is an inhabitant”, to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “may be served in” are substituted for “may run into” for clarity.

In subsection (d)(1), before clause (A), the words “this chapter or a regulation prescribed or order issued under this chapter” are substituted for “requirement imposed under this subchapter” for consistency. The words “civil action” are substituted for “any action” for consistency with rule 2 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 App. U.S.C.).

In subsection (d)(2), the words “without regard to the amount in controversy” are omitted because jurisdiction is now allowed under 28:1331 without regard to the amount in controversy. The words “United States district court” are substituted for “district court of the United States” for consistency with the definition in section 32101 of the revised title and with other provisions of the chapter.

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 112-141 substituted “\$10,000” for “\$2,000” and “\$1,000,000” for “\$100,000”.

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.

§ 32710. Civil actions by private persons

(a) VIOLATION AND AMOUNT OF DAMAGES.—A person that violates this chapter or a regulation prescribed or order issued under this chapter, with intent to defraud, is liable for 3 times the actual damages or \$10,000, whichever is greater.

(b) CIVIL ACTIONS.—A person may bring a civil action to enforce a claim under this section in an appropriate United States district court or in another court of competent jurisdiction. The action must be brought not later than 2 years after the claim accrues. The court shall award costs and a reasonable attorney’s fee to the person when a judgment is entered for that person.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1055; Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title I, §31206(2), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 761.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
32710(a)	15:1989(a)(1).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §409, 86 Stat. 963.
32710(b)	15:1989(a)(2), (b).	

In subsection (a), the words “this chapter or a regulation prescribed or order issued under this chapter” are substituted for “requirement imposed under this subchapter” for consistency.

In subsection (b), the words “A person may bring a civil action to enforce a claim” are substituted for “An action to enforce any liability created . . . may be brought” for consistency with rule 2 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 App. U.S.C.). The word “appropriate” is added for clarity. The words “without regard to the amount in controversy” are omitted because jurisdiction is now allowed under 28:1331 without regard to the amount in controversy. The words “after the claim accrues” are substituted for “from the date on which the liability arises” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “The court shall award . . . to the person when a judgment is entered for that person” are substituted for “in the case of any successful action to enforce the foregoing liability . . . as determined by the court” for clarity.

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 112-141 substituted “\$10,000” for “\$1,500”.

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.

§ 32711. Relationship to State law

Except to the extent that State law is inconsistent with this chapter, this chapter does not—

- (1) affect a State law on disconnecting, altering, or tampering with an odometer with intent to defraud; or
- (2) exempt a person from complying with that law.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1056.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
32711	15:1991.	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §418, 86 Stat. 963; July 14, 1976, Pub. L. 94-364, §408(1), 90 Stat. 984.

In this section, before clause (1), the words “and then only to the extent of the inconsistency” are omitted as surplus. In clause (1), the word “affect” is substituted for “annul, alter, or affect” to eliminate unnecessary words. In clause (2), the words “subject to the provisions of this subchapter” are omitted as surplus.

CHAPTER 329—AUTOMOBILE FUEL ECONOMY

Sec.	
32901.	Definitions.
32902.	Average fuel economy standards.
32903.	Credits for exceeding average fuel economy standards.
32904.	Calculation of average fuel economy.
32905.	Manufacturing incentives for alternative fuel automobiles.

Sec.	
32906.	Maximum fuel economy increase for alternative fuel automobiles.
32907.	Reports and tests of manufacturers.
32908.	Fuel economy information.
32909.	Judicial review of regulations.
32910.	Administrative.
32911.	Compliance.
32912.	Civil penalties.
32913.	Compromising and remitting civil penalties.
32914.	Collecting civil penalties.
32915.	Appealing civil penalties.
32916.	Reports to Congress.
32917.	Standards for executive agency automobiles.
32918.	Retrofit devices.
32919.	Preemption.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-429, § 6(43)(C), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4383, added items 32918 and 32919 and struck out former item 32918 “Preemption”.

§ 32901. Definitions

(a) GENERAL.—In this chapter—

(1) “alternative fuel” means—

(A) methanol;

(B) denatured ethanol;

(C) other alcohols;

(D) except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a mixture containing at least 85 percent of methanol, denatured ethanol, and other alcohols by volume with gasoline or other fuels;

(E) natural gas;

(F) liquefied petroleum gas;

(G) hydrogen;

(H) coal derived liquid fuels;

(I) fuels (except alcohol) derived from biological materials;

(J) electricity (including electricity from solar energy); and

(K) any other fuel the Secretary of Transportation prescribes by regulation that is not substantially petroleum and that would yield substantial energy security and environmental benefits.

(2) “alternative fueled automobile” means an automobile that is a—

(A) dedicated automobile; or

(B) dual fueled automobile.

(3) except as provided in section 32908 of this title, “automobile” means a 4-wheeled vehicle that is propelled by fuel, or by alternative fuel, manufactured primarily for use on public streets, roads, and highways and rated at less than 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight, except—

(A) a vehicle operated only on a rail line;

(B) a vehicle manufactured in different stages by 2 or more manufacturers, if no intermediate or final-stage manufacturer of that vehicle manufactures more than 10,000 multi-stage vehicles per year; or

(C) a work truck.

(4) “automobile manufactured by a manufacturer” includes every automobile manufactured by a person that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the manufacturer, but does not include an automobile manufactured by the person that is exported not later than 30 days after the end of the model year in which the automobile is manufactured.

(5) “average fuel economy” means average fuel economy determined under section 32904 of this title.

(6) “average fuel economy standard” means a performance standard specifying a minimum level of average fuel economy applicable to a manufacturer in a model year.

(7) “commercial medium- and heavy-duty on-highway vehicle” means an on-highway vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or more.

(8) “dedicated automobile” means an automobile that operates only on alternative fuel.

(9) “dual fueled automobile” means an automobile that—

(A) is capable of operating on alternative fuel or a mixture of biodiesel and diesel fuel meeting the standard established by the American Society for Testing and Materials or under section 211(u) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(u)) for fuel containing 20 percent biodiesel (commonly known as “B20”) and on gasoline or diesel fuel;

(B) provides equal or superior energy efficiency, as calculated for the applicable model year during fuel economy testing for the United States Government, when operating on alternative fuel as when operating on gasoline or diesel fuel;

(C) for model years 1993-1995 for an automobile capable of operating on a mixture of an alternative fuel and gasoline or diesel fuel and if the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency decides to extend the application of this subclause, for an additional period ending not later than the end of the last model year to which section 32905(b) and (d) of this title applies, provides equal or superior energy efficiency, as calculated for the applicable model year during fuel economy testing for the Government, when operating on a mixture of alternative fuel and gasoline or diesel fuel containing exactly 50 percent gasoline or diesel fuel as when operating on gasoline or diesel fuel; and

(D) for a passenger automobile, meets or exceeds the minimum driving range prescribed under subsection (c) of this section.

(10) “fuel” means—

(A) gasoline;

(B) diesel oil; or

(C) other liquid or gaseous fuel that the Secretary decides by regulation to include in this definition as consistent with the need of the United States to conserve energy.

(11) “fuel economy” means the average number of miles traveled by an automobile for each gallon of gasoline (or equivalent amount of other fuel) used, as determined by the Administrator under section 32904(c) of this title.

(12) “import” means to import into the customs territory of the United States.

(13) “manufacture” (except under section 32902(d) of this title) means to produce or assemble in the customs territory of the United States or to import.

(14) “manufacturer” means—

(A) a person engaged in the business of manufacturing automobiles, including a