

§ 30104. Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$98,313,500 for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to carry out this part in each fiscal year beginning in fiscal year 1999 and ending in fiscal year 2001.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 944; Pub. L. 105-178, title VII, §7102(a), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 465; Pub. L. 106-39, §1(a), July 28, 1999, 113 Stat. 206.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
30104	15:1392 (note).	Dec. 18, 1991, Pub. L. 102-240, §2501(a), 105 Stat. 2081.

In this section, before clause (1), the words “to the Secretary of Transportation for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration” are substituted for “For the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration” for clarity and consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code. The reference to fiscal year 1992 is omitted as obsolete.

AMENDMENTS

1999—Pub. L. 106-39 substituted “\$98,313,500” for “\$81,200,000”.

1998—Pub. L. 105-178 reenacted section catchline without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The following amounts may be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to carry out this chapter:

“(1) \$71,333,436 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1993.

“(2) \$74,044,106 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1994.

“(3) \$76,857,782 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1995.”

§ 30105. Restriction on lobbying activities

(a) IN GENERAL.—No funds appropriated to the Secretary for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall be available for any activity specifically designed to urge a State or local legislator to favor or oppose the adoption of any specific legislative proposal pending before any State or local legislative body.

(b) APPEARANCE AS WITNESS NOT BARRED.—Subsection (a) does not prohibit officers or employees of the United States from testifying before any State or local legislative body in response to the invitation of any member of that legislative body or a State executive office.

(Added and amended Pub. L. 105-178, title VII, §7104(a), (c), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 466; Pub. L. 105-206, title IX, §9012(a), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 864.)

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-178, §7104(c), as added by Pub. L. 105-206, inserted “for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration” after “Secretary”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Title IX of Pub. L. 105-206 effective simultaneously with enactment of Pub. L. 105-178 and to be treated as included in Pub. L. 105-178 at time of enactment, and provisions of Pub. L. 105-178, as in effect on day before July 22, 1998, that are amended by title IX of Pub. L. 105-206 to be treated as not enacted, see section 9016 of Pub. L. 105-206, set out as a note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.

§ 30106. Rented or leased motor vehicle safety and responsibility

(a) IN GENERAL.—An owner of a motor vehicle that rents or leases the vehicle to a person (or an affiliate of the owner) shall not be liable under the law of any State or political subdivision thereof, by reason of being the owner of the vehicle (or an affiliate of the owner), for harm to persons or property that results or arises out of the use, operation, or possession of the vehicle during the period of the rental or lease, if—

(1) the owner (or an affiliate of the owner) is engaged in the trade or business of renting or leasing motor vehicles; and

(2) there is no negligence or criminal wrongdoing on the part of the owner (or an affiliate of the owner).

(b) FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY LAWS.—Nothing in this section supersedes the law of any State or political subdivision thereof—

(1) imposing financial responsibility or insurance standards on the owner of a motor vehicle for the privilege of registering and operating a motor vehicle; or

(2) imposing liability on business entities engaged in the trade or business of renting or leasing motor vehicles for failure to meet the financial responsibility or liability insurance requirements under State law.

(c) APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this section shall apply with respect to any action commenced on or after the date of enactment of this section without regard to whether the harm that is the subject of the action, or the conduct that caused the harm, occurred before such date of enactment.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) AFFILIATE.—The term “affiliate” means a person other than the owner that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the owner. In the preceding sentence, the term “control” means the power to direct the management and policies of a person whether through ownership of voting securities or otherwise.

(2) OWNER.—The term “owner” means a person who is—

(A) a record or beneficial owner, holder of title, lessor, or lessee of a motor vehicle;

(B) entitled to the use and possession of a motor vehicle subject to a security interest in another person; or

(C) a lessor, lessee, or a bailee of a motor vehicle, in the trade or business of renting or leasing motor vehicles, having the use or possession thereof, under a lease, bailment, or otherwise.

(3) PERSON.—The term “person” means any individual, corporation, company, limited liability company, trust, association, firm, partnership, society, joint stock company, or any other entity.

(Added Pub. L. 109-59, title X, §10208(a), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1935.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this section, referred to in subsec. (c), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 109-59, which was approved Aug. 10, 2005.