

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

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Rows for 32710(a) and 32710(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

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row for 32711.

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.
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 in-