

By the Committee on Transportation and Representatives
Allen, Rubio, Murman, Gibson, Flanagan and Mayfield

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to child restraint
3 requirements; creating the Child Safety Booster
4 Seat Act of 2001; amending s. 316.613, F.S.;
5 revising requirements with respect to the use
6 of child restraint devices; providing for a
7 phase-in period; providing an effective date.

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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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11 Section 1. Short title.--This act may be cited as the
12 "Child Safety Booster Seat Act of 2001."

13 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
14 316.613, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15 316.613 Child restraint requirements.--

16 (1)(a) Every operator of a motor vehicle as defined
17 herein, while transporting a child in a motor vehicle operated
18 on the roadways, streets, or highways of this state, shall, if
19 the child is 8 5 years of age or younger, weighs less than 80
20 pounds, and is less than 4 feet 9 inches in height, provide
21 for protection of the child by properly using a crash-tested,
22 federally approved child restraint device. For children aged
23 through 3 years and for children aged 4 through 8 years who
24 weigh 40 pounds or less, such restraint device must be a
25 separate carrier or a vehicle manufacturer's integrated child
26 seat. For children aged 4 through 8 5 years who weigh more
27 than 40 pounds but less than 80 pounds and who are less than 4
28 feet 9 inches in height, a separate carrier, an integrated
29 child seat, or a child booster seat must ~~seat belt may~~ be
30 used. Effective July 1, 2001, a driver of a motor vehicle who
31 violates this paragraph may be issued a verbal warning and

1 given educational literature by a law enforcement officer.
2 Effective January 1, 2002, a driver of a motor vehicle who
3 violates this paragraph may be issued a moving traffic
4 violation, as provided in s. 318.18. The court shall dismiss
5 the charge against a motor vehicle operator for a first
6 violation of this paragraph upon proof of purchase of a
7 federally approved child restraint device.

8 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.
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