

By the Committee on Transportation and Senators Geller and Villalobos

306-1472-01

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to motor vehicles; creating s.
3 860.146, F.S.; defining the terms "fake airbag"
4 and "junk-filled airbag compartment";
5 prohibiting the sale, purchase, or installation
6 of fake airbags or junk-filled airbag
7 compartments; providing criminal penalties;
8 providing an effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Section 860.146, Florida Statutes, is
13 created to read:

14 860.146 Fake airbags; junk-filled airbag
15 compartment.--

16 (1) As used in this section, the term:

17 (a) "Fake airbag" means any item other than an air bag
18 that was designed in accordance with federal safety
19 regulations for a given make, model, and year of motor vehicle
20 as part of a motor vehicle inflatable restraint system.

21 (b) "Junk-filled airbag compartment" means an airbag
22 compartment that is filled with any substance that does not
23 function in the same manner or to the same extent as an airbag
24 to protect vehicle occupants in a vehicle crash.

25 (2) It is unlawful for anyone to knowingly purchase,
26 sell, or install on any vehicle any fake airbag or junk-filled
27 airbag compartment. Any person who violates this subsection
28 commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided
29 in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

30 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SB 260

The CS deletes a provision in the bill requiring motor vehicle manufacturers to mark airbags with the vehicle identification number of the vehicle in which the airbag is installed.

The CS also deletes a provision in the bill increasing the penalty for dealing in stolen or altered airbags from a third degree felony to a second degree felony.

Finally, the CS revises the definition of "fake airbag" to incorporate recommendations made by motor vehicle manufacturers.