

By Representative Allen

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to child restraint
3 requirements; creating the Child Safety Booster
4 Seat Act of 2002; 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 effective dates.

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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 2002."

13 Section 2. Effective January 1, 2003, paragraph (a) of
14 subsection (1) of section 316.613, Florida Statutes, is
15 amended to read:

16 316.613 Child restraint requirements.--

17 (1)(a) Every operator of a motor vehicle as defined
18 herein, while transporting a child in a motor vehicle operated
19 on the roadways, streets, or highways of this state, shall, if
20 the child is 8 5 years of age or younger and is less than 4
21 feet 9 inches in height, provide for protection of the child
22 by properly using a crash-tested, federally approved child
23 restraint device. For children aged through 3 years, such
24 restraint device must be a separate carrier or a vehicle
25 manufacturer's integrated child seat. For children aged 4
26 through 8 5 years who are less than 4 feet 9 inches in height,
27 a separate carrier, an integrated child seat, or a child
28 booster seat must ~~seat belt may~~ be used. The court shall
29 dismiss the charge against a motor vehicle operator for a
30 first violation of this paragraph upon proof of purchase of a
31 federally approved child restraint device.

1 Section 3. Notwithstanding that the amendments
2 provided in this act to s. 316.613(1)(a), Florida Statutes,
3 shall not take effect until January 1, 2003, effective July 1,
4 2002, a driver of a motor vehicle who does not violate the
5 then-existing provisions of that paragraph but whose conduct
6 would violate that paragraph as it will be amended effective
7 January 1, 2003, may be issued a verbal warning and given
8 educational literature by a law enforcement officer.

9 Section 4. Except as otherwise provided herein, this
10 act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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13 HOUSE SUMMARY

14 Creates the "Child Safety Booster Seat Act of 2002" to
15 revise requirements with respect to the use of child
16 restraint devices. See bill for details.

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