

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to child restraint requirements;  
 3           amending s. 316.613, F.S.; increasing the age of  
 4           children for whom operators of motor vehicles must  
 5           provide protection by using a crash-tested, federally  
 6           approved child restraint device; increasing the age of  
 7           children for whom a separate carrier, an integrated  
 8           child seat, or a child booster seat may be used;  
 9           providing an effective date.

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

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 13           Section 1. 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 in  
 17           this section, while transporting a child in a motor vehicle  
 18           operated on the roadways, streets, or highways of this state,  
 19           shall, if the child is 6 ~~5~~ years of age or younger, provide for  
 20           protection of the child by properly using a crash-tested,  
 21           federally approved child restraint device.

22           1. For children aged through 3 years, such restraint  
 23           device must be a separate carrier or a vehicle manufacturer's  
 24           integrated child seat.

25           2. For children aged 4 through 6 ~~5~~ years, a separate

26 | carrier, an integrated child seat, or a child booster seat may  
27 | be used. However, the requirement to use a child restraint  
28 | device under this subparagraph does not apply when a safety belt  
29 | is used as required in s. 316.614(4)(a) and the child:

30 |       a. Is being transported gratuitously by an operator who is  
31 | not a member of the child's immediate family;

32 |       b. Is being transported in a medical emergency situation  
33 | involving the child; or

34 |       c. Has a medical condition that necessitates an exception  
35 | as evidenced by appropriate documentation from a health care  
36 | professional.

37 |       Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.