

SESSIONS LAWS

of the

STATE OF MINNESOTA

ENACTED BY THE SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

AT THE 1986 REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 3, 1986 TO MARCH 21, 1986

CHAPTERS 1 TO 309 APPEAR IN LAWS OF MINNESOTA 1985

CHAPTER 310—S.F.No. 40

An act relating to transportation; traffic regulations; defining "passenger vehicle"; requiring use of seat belts by passenger vehicle drivers and passengers; amending Minnesota Statutes 1984, section 169.01, by adding a subdivision; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 169.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1984, section 169.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3a. PASSENGER VEHICLE. "Passenger vehicle" means a passenger automobile defined in section 168.011, subdivision 7; a pickup truck defined in section 168.011, subdivision 29; a van defined in section 168.011, subdivision 28; and a self-propelled, recreational vehicle licensed under chapter 168 to use the public streets or highways. "Passenger vehicle" does not include a motorcycle, motorized bicycle, bus, school bus, a vehicle designed to operate exclusively on railroad tracks, a farm truck defined in section 168.011, subdivision 17, or special mobile equipment defined in section 168.011, subdivision 22.

Sec. 2. [169.684] DECLARATION OF POLICY.

Changes or additions are indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.

It is the policy of this state that enactment of a mandatory automobile seat belt usage law is intended to be compatible with support for federal safety standards requiring automatic crash protection, and should not be used in any manner to rescind federal automatic crash protection system requirements for new vehicles.

Sec. 3. [169.686] SEAT BELT USE REQUIRED; PENALTY.

Subdivision 1. SEAT BELT REQUIREMENT. (a) A properly adjusted and fastened seat belt shall be worn by:

- (1) the driver of a passenger vehicle;
- (2) a passenger riding in the front seat of a passenger vehicle; and
- (3) a passenger under the age of 11 riding in any seat of a passenger vehicle.

A violation of this subdivision shall not result in a fine but is punishable only by a safety warning. A violation of this subdivision may not be recorded on the driving record of any person.

Subd. 2. SEAT BELT EXEMPTIONS. This section shall not apply to:

- (1) a person driving a passenger vehicle in reverse;
- (2) a person riding in a seat in which all the seating positions equipped with safety belts are occupied by other persons;
- (3) a person who is in possession of a written certificate from a licensed physician verifying that because of medical unfitness or physical disability the person is unable to wear a seat belt;
- (4) a person who is actually engaged in work that requires him to alight from and reenter a passenger vehicle at frequent intervals and who, while engaged in that work, does not drive or travel in that vehicle at a speed exceeding 25 miles per hour;
- (5) a rural mail carrier of the United States Postal Service while in the performance of his or her duties;
- (6) a person driving or riding in a passenger vehicle manufactured before January 1, 1965; and
- (7) a person driving or riding in a pickup truck, as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 29, while engaged in normal farming work or activity.

Approved February 24, 1986

Changes or additions are indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.