

New law permits day care centers, as defined in R.S. 46:1403, to have a child safety alarm installed in any vehicle that is owned or operated by the day care center and used in the transport of children to or from the day care center. Also requires the installation of the child safety alarm be completed by a person or business that is approved by the manufacturer of the child safety alarm.

New law specifies that an owner or director of a day care center who elects to have a child safety alarm installed in a vehicle owned or operated by the day care center must ensure that the child safety alarm is properly maintained and in good working order each time the vehicle is used for transporting children to or from a day care center.

New law defines the following terms:

- (1) "Child safety alarm" shall mean an ignition-based alarm system that voice prompts the driver of certain vehicles owned or operated by a day care center to inspect said vehicle for children before exiting the vehicle.
- (2) "Vehicle" shall mean a vehicle owned or operated by the day care center, its owner, operator, or employees that is used to transport children to and from the day care center and that has a seating capacity of six or more passengers in addition to the driver.

New law requires the Dept. of Children and Family Services to promulgate rules and procedures to require the installation of child safety alarms in vehicles owned or operated by a day care center owner, operator, or employee that are used to transport children to or from day care centers.

Effective August 15, 2011.

(Adds R.S. 32:295.3.1)