

2019 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 76

BY SENATOR TARVER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

MOTOR VEHICLES. Provides relative to child safety seats. (8/1/19)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:295(A)(1)(a) and (b), relative to child passenger restraint systems; to increase the age a child shall be restrained in a rear-facing child safety seat; to increase the age and weight a child shall be restrained in a forward-facing child safety seat; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:295(A)(1)(a) and (b) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§295. Child passenger restraint system

A. Except as provided in Subsections C, D, and E of this Section, every driver in this state who transports a child or children under the age of thirteen years in a motor vehicle which is equipped with safety belts shall have the child properly secured as follows:

(1) A child younger than six years of age or weighing sixty pounds or less shall be restrained in a child restraint system as provided for in this Subsection that complies with standards of the United States Department of Transportation and is secured in the vehicle in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer of the

1 child restraint system and the passenger seating position is equipped with a safety
 2 belt system that allows sufficient space for installation. The child restraint system
 3 required for a child younger than six years of age or weighing sixty pounds or less
 4 is, in descending order of protectiveness, as follows:

5 (a) A child who is younger than ~~one year~~ **two years** of age or weighs less
 6 than twenty pounds shall be restrained in a rear-facing child safety seat.

7 (b) A child who is at least ~~one year~~ **two years** of age but younger than four
 8 years of age or who weighs at least twenty pounds but less than ~~forty~~ **sixty** pounds
 9 shall be restrained in a forward-facing child safety seat.

10 * * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Sharon F. Lyles.

DIGEST

SB 76 Original

2019 Regular Session

Tarver

Present law requires a child younger than one year of age or who weighs less than 20 pounds to be restrained in a rear-facing child protective system.

Proposed law changes present law to increase the age from one year to two years.

Present law requires a child who is at least one year of age but younger than four years of age or who weighs at least 20 pounds but less than 40 pounds to be restrained in a forward-facing child restraint system.

Proposed law changes present law to increase the age from one year to two years and to increase the weight from less than 40 pounds to less than 60 pounds.

Effective August 1, 2019.

(Amends R.S. 32:295(A)(1)(a) and (b))