

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 55

BY SENATOR STINE

MOTOR VEHICLES. Provides for clarification on the proper way to wear a safety belt.
(8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:295.1(A)(1), relative to seatbelts; to provide for the proper
3 way to wear a seatbelt; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1, R.S. 32:295.1(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §295.1. Safety belt use; tags indicating exemption

7 A.(1) Each driver of a passenger car, van, sports utility vehicle, or truck
8 having a gross weight of twenty-six thousand pounds or less in this state shall have
9 a safety belt properly fastened ~~about his or her body~~ **and worn across both the lap**
10 **and shoulder as designed, and not placed behind the body or under the arm** at
11 all times when the vehicle is in forward motion. The provisions of this Section shall
12 not apply to those cars, vans, sports utility vehicles, or pickups manufactured prior
13 to January 1, 1981.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST
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Present law provides for a seat belt to be properly fastened. Proposed law adds clarifying language that the seatbelt shall be worn as designed.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 32:295.1(A)(1))