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Senate Bill 882 (as reported with amendments)
Sponsor: Senator Bev Hammerstrom
Committee: Transportation

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to require the driver of a motor vehicle who was transporting a child under four to position the child in a child restraint system in a seat located behind the driver; and to remove a provision that currently exempts nursing children from being secured in child restraint systems.

Currently, a driver transporting a child under four years of age in a motor vehicle must properly secure that child in a child restraint system that meets the standards prescribed in the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR 571.213). Children being nursed are exempt from this requirement. Under the bill, all children under four would have to be properly secured in a child restraint system, and the system would have to be positioned in a seat located behind the driver, other than in a jump seat of a pickup, if the vehicle were equipped with such a seat.

A child could be positioned in a child restraint system in a front seat if all rear seating positions were occupied by children in child restraint systems.

(The Code of Federal Regulations specifies design, manufacturing, and performance standards for various types of child restraint systems used in motor vehicles and aircraft. It also requires that car seat instructions contain a statement that children are safer when properly restrained in the rear seating positions than in the front seating positions.)

MCL 257.710d

Legislative Analyst: Julie Koval

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have an indeterminate impact on the number of violations under MCL 257.710d.

Date Completed: 2-11-04

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Bowerman