

By: Senator(s) Simmons (13th)

To: Highways and
Transportation

SENATE BILL NO. 2724
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AND ACT TO CREATE HARLIE'S LAW; TO AMEND SECTION 63-2-1,
2 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE ALL PASSENGERS OF A MOTOR
3 VEHICLE TO WEAR SEAT BELTS EXCEPT THOSE REQUIRED TO USE A CHILD
4 PASSENGER RESTRAINT SYSTEM; TO AMEND SECTION 63-2-7, MISSISSIPPI
5 CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM THE PENALTIES FOR FAILURE TO WEAR A
6 PROPERLY FASTENED SEAT BELT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-2-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 63-2-1. (1) When a passenger motor vehicle is operated in
11 forward motion on a public road, street or highway within this
12 state, every operator * * * and every passenger shall wear a
13 properly fastened safety seat belt system, required to be
14 installed in the vehicle when manufactured pursuant to Federal
15 Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 208.

16 (2) "Passenger motor vehicle" for purposes of this chapter
17 means a motor vehicle designed to carry fifteen (15) or fewer
18 passengers, including the driver, but does not include motorcycles
19 that are not autocycles as defined in Section 63-3-103, mopeds,
20 all-terrain vehicles or trailers.



- 21 (3) This section shall not apply to:
- 22 (a) Vehicles which may be registered for "farm" use,
23 including "implements of husbandry" as defined in Section
24 63-21-5(d), and "farm tractors" as defined in Section 63-3-105(a);
- 25 (b) An operator or passenger possessing a written
26 verification from a licensed physician that he is unable to wear a
27 safety belt system for medical reasons;
- 28 (c) A passenger car operated by a rural letter carrier
29 of the United States Postal Service or by a utility meter reader
30 while on duty; * * *
- 31 (d) Buses * * *; or
- 32 (e) A child who is required to be protected by the use
33 of a child passenger restraint device or system or a
34 belt-positioning booster seat system under the provisions of
35 Sections 63-7-301 through 63-7-311.

36 **SECTION 2.** Section 63-2-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
37 amended as follows:

38 63-2-7. (1) A violation of this chapter shall be a
39 misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00)
40 upon conviction; however, only the operator of a vehicle may be
41 fined for a violation of this chapter by the operator * * * and
42 any passengers. The maximum fine that may be imposed against the
43 operator of a vehicle for a violation of this chapter by the
44 operator or for a violation of this chapter by one or more
45 passengers shall be Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) in the aggregate.



46 (2) A violation of this chapter shall not be entered on the
47 driving record of any individual so convicted, nor shall any state
48 assessment provided for by Section 99-19-73, or any other state
49 law, be imposed or collected.

50 **SECTION 3.** This act shall be known as "Harlie's Law."

51 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
52 and after July 1, 2017.

