

1075

1 (C) the potential use of computer simula-
2 tion techniques, as a supplement to physical
3 crash tests, to conduct virtual simulations of ve-
4 hicle crash tests in order to evaluate predicted
5 motor vehicle safety outcomes based on the dif-
6 ferent physical and demographic characteristics
7 of motor vehicle occupants; and

8 (3) provides policy recommendations for reduc-
9 ing disparities in motor vehicle safety testing and
10 outcomes based on demographic characteristics, in-
11 cluding sex.

12 **SEC. 24222. CHILD SAFETY.**

13 (a) AMENDMENT.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 323 of title 49,
15 United States Code, is amended by adding after sec-
16 tion 32304A the following:

17 **“§ 32304B. Child safety**

18 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 “(1) PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term
20 ‘passenger motor vehicle’ has the meaning given that
21 term in section 32101.

22 “(2) REAR-DESIGNATED SEATING POSITION.—
23 The term ‘rear-designated seating position’ means
24 designated seating positions that are rearward of the
25 front seat.

1076

1 “(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
2 the Secretary of Transportation.

3 “(b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 2 years after the
4 date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall issue
5 a final rule requiring all new passenger motor vehicles
6 weighing less than 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight to
7 be equipped with a system to alert the operator to check
8 rear-designated seating positions after the vehicle engine
9 or motor is deactivated by the operator.

10 “(c) MEANS.—The alert required under subsection
11 (b)—

12 “(1) shall include a distinct auditory and visual
13 alert, which may be combined with a haptic alert;
14 and

15 “(2) shall be activated when the vehicle motor
16 is deactivated by the operator.

17 “(d) PHASE-IN.—The rule issued pursuant to sub-
18 section (b) shall require full compliance with the rule be-
19 ginning on September 1st of the first calendar year that
20 begins 2 years after the date on which the final rule is
21 issued.”.

22 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for
23 chapter 323 of title 49, United States Code, is
24 amended by inserting after the item relating to sec-
25 tion 32304A the following:

“32304B. Child safety.”.

1077

1 (b) AWARENESS OF CHILDREN IN MOTOR VEHI-
2 CLES.—Section 402 of title 23, United States Code (as
3 amended by section 24102(a)(9)), is amended by adding
4 at the end the following:

5 “(o) UNATTENDED PASSENGERS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall use a por-
7 tion of the amounts received by the State under this
8 section to carry out a program to educate the public
9 regarding the risks of leaving a child or unattended
10 passenger in a vehicle after the vehicle motor is de-
11 activated by the operator.

12 “(2) PROGRAM PLACEMENT.—Nothing in this
13 subsection requires a State to carry out a program
14 described in paragraph (1) through the State trans-
15 portation or highway safety office.”.

16 (c) STUDY AND REPORT.—

17 (1) STUDY.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
19 conduct a study on—

20 (i) the potential retrofitting of existing
21 passenger motor vehicles with 1 or more
22 technologies that may address the problem
23 of children left in rear-designated seating
24 positions of motor vehicles after deactiva-

1078

1 tion of the motor vehicles by an operator;
2 and

3 (ii) the potential benefits and burdens,
4 logistical or economic, associated with
5 widespread use of those technologies.

6 (B) ELEMENTS.—In carrying out the
7 study under subparagraph (A), the Secretary
8 shall—

9 (i) survey and evaluate a variety of
10 methods used by current and emerging
11 aftermarket technologies or products to re-
12 duce the risk of children being left in rear-
13 designated seating positions after deactiva-
14 tion of a motor vehicle; and

15 (ii) provide recommendations—

16 (I) for manufacturers of the tech-
17 nologies and products described in
18 clause (i) to carry out a functional
19 safety performance evaluation to en-
20 sure that the technologies and prod-
21 ucts perform as designed by the man-
22 ufacturer under a variety of real-world
23 conditions; and

24 (II) for consumers on methods to
25 select an appropriate technology or

1079

1 product described in clause (i) in
2 order to retrofit existing vehicles.

3 (2) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Not later than
4 180 days after the date on which the Secretary
5 issues the final rule required by section 32304B(b)
6 of title 49, United States Code (as added by sub-
7 section (a)(1)), the Secretary shall submit a report
8 describing the results of the study carried out under
9 paragraph (1) to—

10 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
11 and Transportation of the Senate; and

12 (B) the Committee on Energy and Com-
13 merce of the House of Representatives.

14 **TITLE V—RESEARCH AND**
15 **INNOVATION**

16 **SEC. 25001. INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS PRO-**
17 **GRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

18 Section 515(h) of title 23, United States Code, is
19 amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “(referred to
21 in this subsection as the ‘Advisory Committee’)”
22 after “an Advisory Committee”;

23 (2) in paragraph (2)—