

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1986.

Approved May 13, 1986.

CHAPTER 287

(Senate Bill 15)

AN ACT concerning

Vehicle Laws - Mandatory Seat Belt Usage

FOR the purpose of providing that, unless each certain occupant of an outboard front seat of certain motor vehicles is are restrained by a seat belt, a person may not operate the motor vehicle; defining certain terms; providing that a person who is at least a certain age may not be a passenger in an outboard front seat of a motor vehicle unless the person is restrained by a seat belt; providing certain exceptions to this Act; ~~providing that this Act may not be deemed to amend or affect certain existing laws, rules, or procedures;~~ providing that a violation of this Act is not considered a moving violation for the purpose of assessment of points; establishing that failure of an individual to use a seat belt in violation of this Act may not be considered evidence of negligence or contributory negligence, limit certain liability, or diminish recovery for certain damages in a civil action for damages; prohibiting certain persons from making reference to a seat belt during certain trials; clarifying language; requiring a court to order separate trials for joint tort-feasors or defendants in a civil action under certain circumstances; providing that a police officer may enforce the provisions of this Act only under certain circumstances; ~~stating the legislative intent of this Act with respect to certain federal safety standards;~~ providing that the Motor Vehicle Administration and the Maryland State Police shall establish certain prevention and education programs; providing that the Administration shall include certain information in the annual evaluation report on this State's Highway Safety Plan; requiring the Secretary of Transportation and the Insurance Commissioner jointly to submit certain reports, including specific information, to the General Assembly prior to certain dates; providing a certain penalty; and generally relating to the requirement that certain occupants of certain motor vehicles be restrained by seat belts.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Transportation
Section 27-106