

SENATE BILL NO. 304—SENATOR ROBERSON

MARCH 16, 2015

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the use of safety belts in taxicabs. (BDR 43-774)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; revising provisions relating to the use of safety belts in taxicabs; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Under existing law, with certain exceptions, each adult passenger who rides in a taxicab in this State is required to wear a safety belt. Existing law also provides that a violation of this requirement may not be considered: (1) as negligence or as causation in any civil action or as negligent or reckless driving; or (2) as misuse or as abuse of a product or as causation in any action brought to recover damages for injury to a person or property resulting from the manufacture, distribution, sale or use of a product. (NRS 484D.500) This bill removes the preceding legal limitations and expressly allows a violation of the requirement to wear a safety belt while riding in a taxicab to be considered for those purposes.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 484D.500 is hereby amended to read as follows:

484D.500 1. Any passenger 18 years of age or older who rides in the front or back seat of any taxicab on any highway, road or street in this State shall wear a safety belt if one is available for the seating position of the passenger, except that this subsection does not apply:

(a) To a passenger who possesses a written statement by a physician certifying that the passenger is unable to wear a safety belt for medical or physical reasons; or



1 (b) If the taxicab was not required by federal law at the time of
2 initial sale to be equipped with safety belts.

3 2. A citation must be issued to any passenger who violates the
4 provisions of subsection 1. A citation may be issued pursuant to this
5 subsection only if the violation is discovered when the vehicle is
6 halted or its driver arrested for another alleged violation or offense.
7 Any person who violates the provisions of subsection 1 shall be
8 punished by a fine of not more than \$25 or by a sentence to perform
9 a certain number of hours of community service.

10 3. A violation of subsection 1:

11 (a) Is not a moving traffic violation under NRS 483.473.

12 (b) May ~~not~~ be considered as negligence or as causation in any
13 civil action or as negligent or reckless driving under NRS 484B.653.

14 (c) May ~~not~~ be considered as misuse or abuse of a product or
15 as causation in any action brought to recover damages for injury to a
16 person or property resulting from the manufacture, distribution, sale
17 or use of a product.

18 4. An owner or operator of a taxicab shall post a sign within
19 each of his or her taxicabs advising passengers that they must wear
20 safety belts while being transported by the taxicab. Such a sign must
21 be placed within the taxicab so as to be visible to and easily readable
22 by passengers, except that this subsection does not apply if the
23 taxicab was not required by federal law at the time of initial sale to
24 be equipped with safety belts.

