

# **PENNSYLVANIA VEHICLE CODE SAFETY VIOLATIONS**

## **CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAW (Primary Enforcement) Section 4581 a,1**

All drivers are responsible to secure children from birth to age 4 in an approved child passenger restraint system.

FINE: Maximum fine of \$100.00 plus CAT, EMS, JCP or proof of car seat purchase.

## **(Secondary Enforcement) Section 4581 a, 1.1**

All drivers are responsible to secure children from 4 years of age up to 8 years of age in a seat belt system and an appropriately fitting child booster seat.

Exemptions are allowed under the law. Guidelines have been prepared by the Dept. of Transportation to provide guidance for exemptions for Section 4581 a,1.1

A copy of the guidelines can be obtained from 1-800-CAR BELT.

## **PASSENGERS IN OPEN TRUCKS Section 3719**

An open bed pick-up truck or open flat bed truck may not be driven at any speed if a child less than 18 years of age is occupying the bed of the truck or trailer.

An open bed pick-up truck or open flat bed truck may not be driven at a speed of more than 35 miles per hour if any person is occupying the bed of the truck.

## **SAFETY BELT USE LAW (SECONDARY ENFORCEMENT) section 4581 a,2**

Driver and all front seat passengers must be restrained.

Drivers are responsible for themselves and to secure all children from 8 years of age up to 18 years of age in a seat belt system any where in the vehicle.

Exemptions include carriers of medical or psychological excuses signed by a physician, rural letter carriers, deliverers of goods or service vehicle operators driving at speeds less than 15 mph and making frequent stops, drivers and front seat passengers of automobiles manufactured before July 1, 1966.

FINE: \$10.00 plus CAT, EMS, and JCP when convicted of a primary offense.

**(Primary Enforcement) Section 4581 a,3**

A driver who is under 18 may not operate a motor vehicle in which the number of passengers exceeds the number of available seat belts in the vehicle.

FINE: \$10.00 plus CAT, EMS, and JCP.

**MEETING OR OVERTAKING SCHOOL BUS Section 3345 a**

The driver of a vehicle meeting or overtaking a school bus shall stop at least 10 feet before reaching the school bus when the red signal lights are flashing and the side signal stop arm is activated.

The driver shall not proceed until the red lights are no longer flashing and all children have reached a place of safety.

The driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection where a school bus is stopped with its red signal lights flashing shall stop until the red lights are no longer flashing and all children have reached a place of safety.

FINE: \$250.00 plus 5 points and a 60 day license suspension.

**SPECIAL SPEED LIMITATIONS Section 3365 b**

**School Zones:**

The driver of a vehicle shall not exceed 15 mph in a designated school zone.

FINE: \$35.00

An additional \$2 is added for each mile in excess of 5mph over the max. speed limit. A driver may be cited and receive a maximum fine of \$500 and 3 points if the speed is in excess of 11mph over the speed limit. Second and subsequent offenses will result in a 60 day suspension.

**PEDALCYCLE HELMETS Section 3510 a**

A person under 12 years of age shall not operate a pedalcycle or ride as a passenger on a pedalcycle unless the person is wearing an approved pedalcycle helmet. This also applies to a person who rides:

1. upon a pedalcycle while in a restraining seat attached to a pedalcycle; or,

2. in a trailer towed by a pedalcycle.

FINE: All inclusive fine and costs not to exceed \$25.00

Pedalcycle is defined as a vehicle propelled solely by human powered pedals. Tricycles and “Big Wheels” with a main driving wheel of 20” diameter or under and primarily designed for children 6 years and younger are not subject to the helmet law.

## **DUTY OF DRIVER IN CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE AREAS**

### **Section 3326**

All motorists are required to travel with their headlights on in posted work zones.

Motorists driving in an active work zone may be cited for exceeding the speed limit by one mile-speed tolerances are eliminated.

Motorists convicted of driving 11 miles per hour or more above the posted speed limit, or who are involved in a crash in an active work zone and are cited and convicted for failing to drive at a safe speed will automatically lose their license for 15 days. Drivers will be given up to an additional 5 years jail term if convicted of homicide by vehicle in an active work zone.