

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5632

To amend Chapter 301 of title 49, United States Code, to establish a national tire fuel efficiency consumer information program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 16, 2006

Mr. SHIMKUS (for himself, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. ALLEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend Chapter 301 of title 49, United States Code, to establish a national tire fuel efficiency consumer information program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. TIRE FUEL EFFICIENCY CONSUMER INFORMA-**
4 **TION.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 301 of title 49, United
6 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 30123
7 the following new section:

1 **“§ 30123A. Tire Fuel Efficiency Consumer Informa-**
2 **tion**

3 “(a) RULEMAKING.—(1) Not later than 18 months
4 after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary
5 of Transportation shall, after notice and opportunity for
6 comment, promulgate rules establishing a national tire
7 fuel efficiency consumer information program for tires de-
8 signed for use on motor vehicles to educate consumers
9 about the effect of tires on automobile fuel efficiency.

10 “(2) ITEMS INCLUDED IN RULE.—The rulemaking
11 shall include each of the following:

12 “(A) A national tire fuel efficiency rating sys-
13 tem for motor vehicle tires to assist consumers in
14 making more educated tire purchasing decisions.

15 “(B) Requirements for providing information to
16 consumers, including information at the point of sale
17 and other potential information dissemination meth-
18 ods, including the internet.

19 “(C) Specifications for test methods for manu-
20 facturers to use in assessing and rating tires to
21 avoid variation among test equipment and manufac-
22 turers.

23 “(D) A national tire maintenance consumer
24 education program including, information on tire in-
25 flation pressure, alignment, rotation, and tread wear
26 to maximize fuel efficiency.

1 “(3) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall not apply to
2 tires excluded from coverage under section 575.104(c)(2)
3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on
4 date of enactment of this section.

5 “(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall consult
6 with the Secretary of Energy and the Administrator of
7 the Environmental Protection Agency on the means of
8 conveying tire fuel efficiency consumer information.

9 “(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall
10 conduct periodic assessments of the rules promulgated
11 under this section to determine the utility of such rules
12 to consumers, the level of cooperation by industry, and the
13 contribution to national goals pertaining to energy con-
14 sumption. The Secretary shall transmit periodic reports
15 detailing the findings of such assessments to the Energy
16 and Commerce Committee of the House of Representa-
17 tives and the Commerce, Science, and Transportation
18 Committee of the Senate.

19 “(d) TIRE MARKING.—The Secretary shall not re-
20 quire permanent labeling of any kind on a tire for the pur-
21 pose of tire fuel efficiency information.

22 “(e) PREEMPTION.—When a requirement under this
23 section is in effect, a State or political subdivision of a
24 State may adopt or enforce a law or regulation on tire
25 fuel efficiency consumer information only if the law or reg-

1 ulation is identical to that requirement. Nothing in this
2 section shall be construed to preempt a State or political
3 subdivision of a State from regulating the fuel efficiency
4 of tires not otherwise preempted under this chapter.”.

5 (b) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 30165(a) of such chap-
6 ter is amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(3) SECTION 30123A.—Any person who fails to
8 comply with the national tire fuel efficiency con-
9 sumer information program under section 30123A is
10 liable to the United States Government for a civil
11 penalty of not more than \$50,000 for each viola-
12 tion.”.

13 (c) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
14 chapter 301 of title 49 is amended by adding the following
15 new item after the item relating to section 30123:

“30123A. Tire fuel efficiency consumer information.”.

