

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 32304 of this title; title 18 sections 511, 553.

§ 32102. Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$9,562,500 for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to carry out this part in each fiscal year beginning in fiscal year 1999 and ending in fiscal year 2001.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1035; Pub. L. 105-178, title VII, §7102(b), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 465; Pub. L. 106-39, §1(b), July 28, 1999, 113 Stat. 206.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 32102: 15:1392 (note), Dec. 18, 1991, Pub. L. 102-240, §2501(b), 105 Stat. 2081.

The reference to fiscal year 1992 is omitted as obsolete.

AMENDMENTS

1999—Pub. L. 106-39 substituted “\$9,562,500” for “\$6,200,000”.

1998—Pub. L. 105-178 reenacted section catchline without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The following amounts may be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to carry out this part:

“(1) \$6,731,430 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1993.

“(2) \$6,987,224 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1994.

“(3) \$7,252,739 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1995.”

CHAPTER 323—CONSUMER INFORMATION

Table with 2 columns: Sec., Definitions. Rows 32301-32309: Definitions, Passenger motor vehicle information, Insurance information, Passenger motor vehicle country of origin labeling, Information and assistance from other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities, Personnel, Investigative powers, General prohibitions, civil penalty, and enforcement, Civil penalty for labeling violations.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-429, §6(28), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4380, substituted “Civil” for “Criminal” in item 32309.

CHAPTER REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This chapter is referred to in title 18 section 2721.

§ 32301. Definitions

In this chapter—

(1) “crashworthiness” means the protection a passenger motor vehicle gives its passengers against personal injury or death from a motor vehicle accident.

(2) “damage susceptibility” means the susceptibility of a passenger motor vehicle to damage in a motor vehicle accident.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1035.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 32301: 15:1901(13), (14), Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §2(13), (14), 86 Stat. 948; Dec. 22, 1975, Pub. L. 94-163, §301, 89 Stat. 901; Oct. 10, 1980, Pub. L. 96-425, §8(a)(2), 94 Stat. 1828; Oct. 25, 1984, Pub. L. 98-547, §101(b), 98 Stat. 2767.

§ 32302. Passenger motor vehicle information

(a) INFORMATION PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Transportation shall maintain a program for developing the following information on passenger motor vehicles:

(1) damage susceptibility.

(2) crashworthiness.

(3) the degree of difficulty of diagnosis and repair of damage to, or failure of, mechanical and electrical systems.

(4) vehicle operating costs dependent on the characteristics referred to in clauses (1)–(3) of this subsection, including insurance information obtained under section 32303 of this title.

(b) MOTOR VEHICLE INFORMATION.—To assist a consumer in buying a passenger motor vehicle, the Secretary shall provide to the public information developed under subsection (a) of this section. The information shall be in a simple and understandable form that allows comparison of the characteristics referred to in subsection (a)(1)–(3) of this section among the makes and models of passenger motor vehicles. The Secretary may require passenger motor vehicle dealers to distribute the information to prospective buyers.

(c) INSURANCE COST INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations that require passenger motor vehicle dealers to distribute to prospective buyers information the Secretary develops and provides to the dealers that compares insurance costs for different makes and models of passenger motor vehicles based on damage susceptibility and crashworthiness.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1035.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Rows 32302(a), 32302(b), 32302(c) with various source citations.

In subsection (a), the words before clause (1) are substituted for “The Secretary shall compile the information described in subsection (c) of this section” and “existing information and information to be developed relating to” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (b), the words “After the study has been completed” are omitted as executed. The words “To assist a consumer in buying a passenger motor vehicle” are substituted for “so as to be of benefit in their passenger motor vehicle purchasing decisions”, and the

words “the Secretary shall provide to the public” are substituted for “the Secretary is authorized and directed to devise specific ways in which . . . can be communicated to consumers” and “furnish it to the public”, to eliminate unnecessary words. The word “existing” is omitted as obsolete.

In subsection (c), the words “not later than February 1, 1975” are omitted as executed. The words “prescribe regulations” are substituted for “by rule establish” for consistency in the revised title and because “rule” is synonymous with “regulation”.

### § 32303. Insurance information

(a) GENERAL REPORTS AND INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS.—(1) In carrying out this chapter, the Secretary of Transportation may require an insurer, or a designated agent of the insurer, to make reports and provide the Secretary with information. The reports and information may include accident claim information by make, model, and model year of passenger motor vehicle about the kind and extent of—

- (A) physical damage and repair costs; and
- (B) personal injury.

(2) In deciding which reports and information are to be provided under this subsection, the Secretary shall—

- (A) consider the cost of preparing and providing the reports and information;
- (B) consider the extent to which the reports and information will contribute to carrying out this chapter; and
- (C) consult with State authorities and public and private agencies the Secretary considers appropriate.

(3) To the extent possible, the Secretary shall obtain reports and information under this subsection on a voluntary basis.

(b) REQUESTED INFORMATION ON CRASHWORTHINESS, DAMAGE SUSCEPTIBILITY, AND REPAIR AND PERSONAL INJURY COST.—When requested by the Secretary, an insurer shall give the Secretary information—

- (1) about the extent to which the insurance premiums charged by the insurer are affected by damage susceptibility, crashworthiness, and the cost of repair and personal injury, for each make and model of passenger motor vehicle; and
- (2) available to the insurer about the effect of damage susceptibility, crashworthiness, and the cost of repair and personal injury for each make and model of passenger motor vehicle on the risk incurred by the insurer in insuring that make and model.

(c) DISCLOSURE.—In distributing information received under this section, the Secretary may disclose identifying information about a person that may be an insured, a claimant, a passenger, an owner, a witness, or an individual involved in a motor vehicle accident, only with the consent of the person.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1036.)

### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES—CONTINUED

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
32303(b) .....	15:1945(e).	
32303(c) .....	15:1945(f).	

In subsection (a), the words “carrying out this chapter” are substituted for “to enable him to carry out the purposes of this subchapter” to eliminate unnecessary words. The word “provide” is substituted for “furnish” for consistency.

In subsection (a)(1), before clause (A), the words “the Secretary of Transportation may require . . . to . . . provide the Secretary with” are substituted for “shall, upon request by the Secretary . . . as the Secretary may reasonably require” to eliminate unnecessary words. The text of 15:1945(g) is omitted as surplus because of 49:322(a). The word “information” is substituted for “data” for consistency in the section. In clause (A), the words “repair costs” are substituted for “the cost of remedying the damage” to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (a)(2)(C), the words “State authorities and public and private agencies” are substituted for “such State and insurance regulatory agencies and other agencies and associations, both public and private” for consistency and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (b), before clause (1), the word “information” is substituted for “a description of” for consistency in the section. In clause (1), the word “premiums” is substituted for “rates or premiums” because it is inclusive. In clause (2), the words “by the insurer” are added for clarity.

In subsection (c), the words “identifying information” are substituted for “the name of, or other identifying information”, and the words “a witness, or an individual involved” are substituted for “a driver, an injured person, a witness, or otherwise involved” to eliminate unnecessary words. The word “accident” is substituted for “crash or collision” for consistency in this section. The words “so named or otherwise identified” are omitted as surplus.

#### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 32302 of this title.

### § 32304. Passenger motor vehicle country of origin labeling

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) “allied supplier” means a supplier of passenger motor vehicle equipment that is wholly owned by the manufacturer, or if a joint venture vehicle assembly arrangement, a supplier that is wholly owned by one member of the joint venture arrangement.

(2)(A) “carline”—

(i) means a name given a group of passenger motor vehicles that has a degree of commonality in construction such as body and chassis;

(ii) does not consider a level of decor or opulence; and

(iii) except for light duty trucks, is not generally distinguished by characteristics such as roof line, number of doors, seats, or windows; and

(B) light duty trucks are different carlines than passenger motor vehicles.

(3) “country of origin”, when referring to the origin of an engine or transmission, means the country from which the largest share of the dollar value added to an engine or transmission has originated—

### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
32303(a) .....	15:1945(a)-(d), (g).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, § 205, 86 Stat. 958.

(A) with the United States and Canada treated as separate countries; and

(B) the estimate of the percentage of the dollar value shall be based on the purchase price of direct materials, as received at individual engine or transmission plants, of engines of the same displacement and transmissions of the same transmission type, plus the assembly and labor costs incurred for the final assembly of such engines and transmissions.

(4) “dealer” means a person residing or located in the United States, including the District of Columbia or a territory or possession of the United States, and engaged in selling or distributing new passenger motor vehicles to the ultimate purchaser.

(5) “final assembly place” means the plant, factory, or other place at which a new passenger motor vehicle is produced or assembled by a manufacturer, and from which the vehicle is delivered to a dealer or importer with all component parts necessary for the mechanical operation of the vehicle included with the vehicle, whether or not the component parts are permanently installed in or on the vehicle. Such term does not include facilities for engine and transmission fabrication and assembly and the facilities for fabrication of motor vehicle equipment component parts which are produced at the same final assembly place using forming processes such as stamping, machining, or molding processes.

(6) “foreign content” means passenger motor vehicle equipment that is not of United States/Canadian origin.

(7) “manufacturer” means a person—

(A) engaged in manufacturing or assembling new passenger motor vehicles;

(B) importing new passenger motor vehicles for resale; or

(C) acting for and under the control of such a manufacturer, assembler, or importer in connection with the distribution of new passenger motor vehicles.

(8) “new passenger motor vehicle” means a passenger motor vehicle for which a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer has never transferred the equitable or legal title to the vehicle to an ultimate purchaser.

(9) “of United States/Canadian origin”, when referring to passenger motor vehicle equipment, means—

(A) for an outside supplier—

(i) the full purchase price of passenger motor vehicle equipment whose purchase price contains at least 70 percent value added in the United States and Canada; or

(ii) that portion of the purchase price of passenger motor vehicle equipment containing less than 70 percent value added in the United States and Canada that is attributable to the percent value added in the United States and Canada when such percent is expressed to the nearest 5 percent; and

(B) for an allied supplier, that part of the individual passenger motor vehicle equipment whose purchase price the manufacturer determines remains after subtracting

the total of the purchase prices of all material of foreign content purchased from outside suppliers, with the determination of the United States/Canadian origin or of the foreign content from outside suppliers being consistent with subclause (A) of this clause.

(10) “outside supplier” means a supplier of passenger motor vehicle equipment to a manufacturer’s allied supplier, or a person other than an allied supplier, who ships directly to the manufacturer’s final assembly place.

(11) “passenger motor vehicle” has the same meaning given that term in section 32101(10) of this title, except that it includes any multipurpose vehicle or light duty truck when that vehicle or truck is rated at not more than 8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight.

(12) “passenger motor vehicle equipment”—

(A) means a system, subassembly, or component received at the final vehicle assembly place for installation on, or attachment to, a passenger motor vehicle at the time of its first shipment by the manufacturer to a dealer for sale to an ultimate purchaser; but

(B) does not include minor parts (including nuts, bolts, clips, screws, pins, braces, and other attachment hardware) and other similar items the Secretary of Transportation may prescribe by regulation after consulting with manufacturers and labor.

(13) “percentage (by value)”, when referring to passenger motor vehicle equipment of United States/Canadian origin, means the percentage remaining after subtracting the percentage (by value) of passenger motor vehicle equipment that is not of United States/Canadian origin that will be installed or included on those vehicles produced in a carline, from 100 percent—

(A) with value being expressed in terms of the purchase price; and

(B) for outside suppliers and allied suppliers, the value used is the purchase price of the equipment paid at the final assembly place.

(14) “State” means a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands.

(15) “value added in the United States and Canada” means a percentage determined by subtracting the total purchase price of foreign content from the total purchase price, and dividing the remainder by the total purchase price, excluding costs incurred or profits made at the final assembly place and beyond (including advertising, assembly, labor, interest payments, and profits), with the following groupings being used:

(A) engines of same displacement produced at the same plant.

(B) transmissions of the same type produced at the same plant.

(b) MANUFACTURER REQUIREMENT.—(1) Each manufacturer of a new passenger motor vehicle manufactured after September 30, 1994, and distributed in commerce for sale in the United States, shall establish each year for each model year and cause to be attached in a prominent

place on each of those vehicles, at least one label. The label shall contain the following information:

(A) the percentage (by value) of passenger motor vehicle equipment of United States/Canadian origin installed on vehicles in the carline to which that vehicle belongs, identified by the words "U.S./Canadian content".

(B) the final assembly place for that vehicle by city, State (where appropriate) and country.

(C) if at least 15 percent (by value) of equipment installed on passenger motor vehicles in a carline originated in any country other than the United States and Canada, the names of at least the 2 countries in which the greatest amount (by value) of that equipment originated and the percentage (by value) of the equipment originating in each country.

(D) the country of origin of the engine and the transmission for each vehicle.

(2) At the beginning of each model year, each manufacturer shall establish the percentages required for each carline to be indicated on the label under this subsection. Those percentages are applicable to that carline for the entire model year. A manufacturer may round those percentages to the nearest 5 percent.

(3) A manufacturer complying with the requirement of paragraph (1)(B) of this subsection satisfies the disclosure requirement of section 3(b) of the Automobile Information Disclosure Act (15 U.S.C. 1232(b)).

(c) VEHICLE CONTENT PERCENTAGE BY ASSEMBLY PLANT.—A manufacturer may display separately on the label required by subsection (b) the domestic content of a vehicle based on the assembly plant. Such display shall occur after the matter required to be in the label by subsection (b)(1)(A).

(d) VALUE ADDED DETERMINATION.—If a manufacturer or allied supplier requests information in a timely manner from one or more of its outside suppliers concerning the United States/Canadian content of particular equipment, but does not receive that information despite a good faith effort to obtain it, the manufacturer or allied supplier may make its own good faith value added determinations, subject to the following:

(1) The manufacturer or allied supplier shall make the same value added determinations as would be made by the outside supplier, that is, whether 70 percent or more of the value of equipment is added in the United States and/or Canada.

(2) The manufacturer or allied supplier shall consider the amount of value added and the location in which the value was added for all of the stages that the outside supplier would be required to consider.

(3) The manufacturer or allied supplier may determine that the value added in the United States and/or Canada is 70 percent or more only if it has a good faith basis to make that determination.

(4) A manufacturer and its allied suppliers may, on a combined basis, make value added determinations for no more than 10 percent, by value, of a carline's total parts content from outside suppliers.

(5) Value added determinations made by a manufacturer or allied supplier under this

paragraph shall have the same effect as if they were made by the outside supplier.

(6) This provision does not affect the obligation of outside suppliers to provide the requested information.

(e) SMALL PARTS.—The country of origin of nuts, bolts, clips, screws, pins, braces, gasoline, oil, blackout, phosphate rinse, windshield washer fluid, fasteners, tire assembly fluid, rivets, adhesives, and grommets, of any system, sub-assembly, or component installed in a vehicle shall be considered to be the country in which such parts were included in the final assembly of such vehicle.

(f) DEALER REQUIREMENT.—Each dealer engaged in the sale or distribution of a new passenger motor vehicle manufactured after September 30, 1994, shall cause to be maintained on that vehicle the label required to be attached to that vehicle under subsection (b) of this section.

(g) FORM AND CONTENT OF LABEL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe by regulation the form and content of the label required under subsection (b) of this section and the manner and location in which the label is attached. The Secretary shall permit a manufacturer to comply with this section by allowing the manufacturer to disclose the information required under subsection (b)(1) on the label required by section 3 of the Automobile Information Disclosure Act (15 U.S.C. 1232), on the label required by section 32908 of this title, or on a separate label that is readily visible. A manufacturer may add to the label required under subsection (b) a line stating the country in which vehicle assembly was completed.

(h) REGULATIONS.—In consultation with the Secretaries of Commerce and the Treasury, the Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe regulations necessary to carry out this section, including regulations establishing a procedure to verify the label information required under subsection (b)(1) of this section. Those regulations shall provide the ultimate purchaser of a new passenger motor vehicle with the best and most understandable information possible about the foreign content and United States/Canadian origin of the equipment of the vehicles without imposing costly and unnecessary burdens on the manufacturers. The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe the regulations promptly to provide adequate lead time for each manufacturer to comply with this section. The regulations shall include provisions applicable to outside suppliers and allied suppliers to require those suppliers to certify whether passenger motor vehicle equipment provided by those suppliers is of United States origin, of United States/Canadian origin, or of foreign content and to provide other information the Secretary of Transportation decides is necessary to allow each manufacturer to comply reasonably with this section and to rely on that certification and information.

(i) PREEMPTION.—(1) When a label content requirement prescribed under this section is in effect, a State or a political subdivision of a State may not adopt or enforce a law or regulation related to the content of vehicles covered by a requirement under this section.

(2) A State or a political subdivision of a State may prescribe requirements related to the con-

tent of passenger motor vehicles obtained for its own use.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1036; Pub. L. 103-429, §6(29), (30), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4380; Pub. L. 105-178, title VII, §7106(d), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 467.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES  
PUB. L. 103-272

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
32304(a) .....	15:1950(f).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, 86 Stat. 947, §210(b)-(d), (f), (g), added Oct. 6, 1992, Pub. L. 102-388, §355, 106 Stat. 1556, 1557.
32304(b)(1), (2).	15:1950(b)(1) (less words between 1st and 2d commas), (2).	
32304(b)(3) ..	15:1950(b)(3).	
32304(c) .....	15:1950(b)(1) (words between 1st and 2d commas).	
32304(d) .....	15:1950(c).	
32304(e) .....	15:1950(d).	
32304(f) .....	15:1950(g).	

In this section, the words “passenger motor vehicle” and “vehicle” are substituted for “automobile” because the defined terms used in the operative provisions of the law being restated are “passenger motor vehicle” and “new passenger motor vehicle”. The words “final assembly place” are substituted for “final assembly point” for clarity and consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code.

In subsection (a)(2)(A)(i), the word “given” is substituted for “denoting” for clarity. The words “passenger motor” are added for clarity and consistency in the revised section.

In section (a)(2)(A)(ii), the words “decor or opulence” are substituted for “decor of opulence” for clarity.

In subsection (a)(3), before subclause (A), the words “from which the largest share of the dollar value added to . . . has originated” are substituted for “in which 50 percent or more of the dollar value added of . . . originated. If no country accounts for 50 percent or more of the dollar value, then the country of origin is the country from which the largest share of the value added originated” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words. In subclause (A), the word “with” is substituted for “For the purpose of determining the country of origin for engines and transmissions” are omitted as unnecessary.

In subsection (a)(4), the word “possession” is added for clarity and consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the Code.

In subsection (a)(5), the words “in such a condition” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (a)(6), the words “United States/Canadian origin” are substituted for “U.S./Canadian origin” for consistency with the defined term restated in the revised section. The word “foreign” is omitted as being included in “foreign content”.

In subsection (a)(9), before subclause (A), the words “originated in the United States and Canada” and “U.S./Canadian origin” are omitted as unnecessary because of the defined term “of United States/Canadian origin”. In subclause (A), the words “passenger motor vehicle equipment whose purchase price contains” are substituted for “the purchase price of automotive equipment which contains” for clarity. In subclause (B), the words “that part of the individual passenger motor vehicle equipment whose purchase price the manufacturer determines remains after subtracting the total of the purchase price of all material of foreign content purchased from outside suppliers” are substituted for “the manufacturer shall determine the foreign content of any passenger motor vehicle equipment supplied by the allied supplier by adding up the pur-

chase price of all foreign material purchased from outside suppliers that comprise the individual passenger motor vehicle equipment and subtracting such purchase price from the total purchase price of such equipment” for clarity.

In subsection (a)(10), the word “person” is substituted for “anyone” for clarity and consistency in the revised title.

In subsection (a)(11), the words “a motor vehicle with motive power, manufactured primarily for use on public streets, roads, and highways, and designed to carry not more than 12 individuals . . . not including . . . a motorcycle; or . . . a truck not designed primarily to carry its operator or passengers” are substituted for “has the meaning provided in section 1901(1) of this title” for clarity.

In subsection (a)(13), before subclause (A), the words “the percentage remaining after subtracting” are substituted for “the resulting percentage when . . . is subtracted” for clarity.

In subsection (a)(15), before subclause (A), the words “Value added equals” are omitted as unnecessary because of the restatement.

The text of 15:1950(f)(2) is omitted as unnecessary because of 1:1. The text of 15:1950(f)(8) is omitted because the complete title of the Secretary of Transportation is used the first time the term appears in a section.

In subsection (b)(1)(A), the words “to which that vehicle belongs” are added for clarity.

In subsection (b)(3), the text of 15:1950(b)(3) (1st sentence) is omitted as unnecessary because of the source provisions restated in this subsection.

Subsection (c) is substituted for “and each dealer shall cause to be maintained” for clarity and because of the restatement.

In subsection (e), the words “passenger motor vehicle equipment” are substituted for “a component” for clarity and for consistency with the defined term. The text of 15:1950(d) (last sentence) is omitted as unnecessary because of section 32308 of the revised title. The words “foreign content” are substituted for “foreign” for clarity and consistency with the defined term.

PUB. L. 103-429, §6(29)

This amends 32304(a)(11) to clarify the restatement of 15:1950(f)(3) by section 1 of the Act of July 5, 1994 (Public Law 103-272, 108 Stat. 1038).

PUB. L. 103-429, §6(30)

This amends 49:32304(a)(14) to reflect the inclusion of the Northern Mariana Islands and the exclusion of the Canal Zone. The words “the Northern Mariana Islands” are added because of section 502(a)(2) of the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, as enacted by the Act of March 24, 1976 (Public Law 94-241, 90 Stat. 268), and as proclaimed to be in effect by the President on January 9, 1978 (Proc. No. 4534, Oct. 24, 1977, 42 F.R. 56593). The words “the Canal Zone” are omitted because of the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (a)(3)(B). Pub. L. 105-178, §7106(d)(1)(A), inserted before period at end “, plus the assembly and labor costs incurred for the final assembly of such engines and transmissions”.

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 105-178, §7106(d)(1)(B), inserted at end “Such term does not include facilities for engine and transmission fabrication and assembly and the facilities for fabrication of motor vehicle equipment component parts which are produced at the same final assembly place using forming processes such as stamping, machining, or molding processes.”

Subsec. (a)(9)(A). Pub. L. 105-178, §7106(d)(1)(C), amended subpar. (A) generally. Prior to amendment, subpar. (A) read as follows: “for an outside supplier, passenger motor vehicle equipment whose purchase price contains at least 70 percent value added in the United States and Canada; and”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 105-178, §7106(d)(3), added subsec. (c). Former subsec. (c) redesignated (f).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 105-178, §7106(d)(4), added subsec. (d). Former subsec. (d) redesignated (g).

Pub. L. 105-178, §7106(d)(2), inserted at end "A manufacturer may add to the label required under subsection (b) a line stating the country in which vehicle assembly was completed."

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 105-178, §7106(d)(5), added subsec. (e). Former subsec. (e) redesignated (h).

Subsecs. (f) to (i). Pub. L. 105-178, §7106(d)(3), redesignated subsecs. (c) to (f) as (f) to (i), respectively.

1994—Subsec. (a)(11). Pub. L. 103-429, §6(29), amended par. (11) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (11) read as follows: "‘passenger motor vehicle’ means a motor vehicle with motive power, manufactured primarily for use on public streets, roads, and highways, and designed to carry not more than 12 individuals—

"(A) including a multipurpose vehicle or light duty truck when the vehicle or truck is rated at not more than 8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight; but

"(B) not including—

"(i) a motorcycle;

"(ii) a truck not designed primarily to carry its operator or passengers; or

"(iii) a vehicle operated only on a rail line."

Subsec. (a)(14). Pub. L. 103-429, §6(30), inserted "the Northern Mariana Islands," after "Puerto Rico," and struck out "the Canal Zone," after "Guam,".

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-429 effective July 5, 1994, see section 9 of Pub. L. 103-429, set out as a note under section 321 of this title.

#### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 32309 of this title.

### § 32305. Information and assistance from other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities

(a) **AUTHORITY TO REQUEST.**—The Secretary of Transportation may request information necessary to carry out this chapter from a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government. The head of the department, agency, or instrumentality shall provide the information.

(b) **DETAILING PERSONNEL.**—The head of a department, agency, or instrumentality may detail, on a reimbursable basis, personnel to assist the Secretary in carrying out this chapter.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1040.)

#### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
32305 .....	15:1943.	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §203, 86 Stat. 957.

In this section, the word "independent" is omitted as surplus.

In subsection (a), the words "he deems" and "his functions under" are omitted as surplus. The words "head of the" are added for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code. The words "cooperate with the Secretary and" and "to the Department of Transportation upon request made by the Secretary" are omitted as surplus.

### § 32306. Personnel

(a) **GENERAL AUTHORITY.**—In carrying out this chapter, the Secretary of Transportation may—

(1) appoint and fix the pay of employees without regard to the provisions of title 5 gov-

erning appointment in the competitive service and chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5; and

(2) make contracts with persons for research and preparation of reports.

(b) **STATUS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS.**—A member of an advisory committee appointed under section 325 of this title to carry out this chapter is a special United States Government employee under chapter 11 of title 18.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1040.)

#### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
32306(a) .....	15:1942 (1st, 2d sentences).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §202, 86 Stat. 956.
32306(b) .....	15:1942 (last sentence).	

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words "his functions under" are omitted as surplus. In clause (1), the words "as he deems necessary" are omitted as surplus. The words "chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5" are substituted for "the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates" to eliminate unnecessary words. The text of 15:1942 (1st sentence cl. (2)) is omitted as surplus because of 49:323(b). The text of 15:1942 (1st sentence cl. (4), 2d sentence) is omitted as surplus because of 49:325.

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The provisions of title 5 governing appointment in the competitive service, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), are classified generally to section 3301 et seq. of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

### § 32307. Investigative powers

(a) **GENERAL AUTHORITY.**—In carrying out this chapter, the Secretary of Transportation may—

(1) inspect and copy records of any person at reasonable times;

(2) order a person to file written reports or answers to specific questions, including reports or answers under oath; and

(3) conduct hearings, administer oaths, take testimony, and require (by subpoena or otherwise) the appearance and testimony of witnesses and the production of records the Secretary considers advisable.

(b) **WITNESS FEES AND MILEAGE.**—A witness summoned under subsection (a) of this section is entitled to the same fee and mileage the witness would have been paid in a court of the United States.

(c) **CIVIL ACTIONS TO ENFORCE.**—A civil action to enforce a subpoena or order of the Secretary under subsection (a) of this section may be brought in the United States district court for the judicial district in which the proceeding by the Secretary is conducted. The court may punish a failure to obey an order of the court to comply with the subpoena or order of the Secretary as a contempt of court.

(d) **CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.**—Information obtained by the Secretary under this section related to a confidential matter referred to in section 1905 of title 18 may be disclosed only to another officer or employee of the United States Government for use in carrying

out this chapter. This subsection does not authorize information to be withheld from a committee of Congress authorized to have the information.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1040.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
32307(a) .....	15:1944(a)-(c).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §204, 86 Stat. 957.
32307(b) .....	15:1944(e).	
32307(c) .....	15:1944(d).	
32307(d) .....	15:1944(f).	

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words “In carrying out this chapter” are substituted for “For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subchapter”, “In order to carry out the provisions of this subchapter”, and “relating to any function of the Secretary under this subchapter” for consistency. The words “or on the authorization of the Secretary, any officer or employee of the Department of Transportation” and “or his duly authorized agent” are omitted as surplus because of 49:322(b). In clause (1), the words “inspect and copy” are substituted for “have access to, and for the purposes of examination the right to copy”, and the word “records” is substituted for “documentary evidence” and “materials and information”, for consistency and to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “relevant to the study authorized by this subchapter” are omitted as surplus. In clause (2), the word “order” is substituted for “require, by general or special orders” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “in such form as the Secretary may prescribe” and “shall be filed with the Secretary within such reasonable period as the Secretary may prescribe” are omitted as surplus because of 49:322(a). In clause (3), the words “sit and act at such times and places” are omitted as being included in “conduct hearings”.

In subsection (c), the words “A civil action to enforce a subpoena or order of the Secretary under subsection (a) of this section may be brought in the United States district court for the judicial district in which the proceeding by the Secretary is conducted” are substituted for 15:1944(d) (words before semicolon) for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (d), the words “reported to or otherwise” are omitted as surplus. The words “or such officer or employee” are omitted for consistency with subsection (a) of this section. The words “related to a confidential matter referred to” are substituted for “contains or relates to a trade secret or other matter referred to” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “a committee of Congress authorized to have the information” are substituted for “the duly authorized committees of the Congress” for clarity.

**§ 32308. General prohibitions, civil penalty, and enforcement**

(a) PROHIBITIONS.—A person may not—

(1) fail to provide the Secretary of Transportation with information requested by the Secretary in carrying out this chapter; or

(2) fail to comply with applicable regulations prescribed by the Secretary in carrying out this chapter.

(b) CIVIL PENALTY.—(1) A person that violates subsection (a) of this section is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 for each violation. Each failure to provide information or comply with a regulation in violation of subsection (a) is a separate violation. The maximum penalty under this subsection for a related series of violations is \$400,000.

(2) The Secretary may compromise the amount of a civil penalty imposed under this section.

(3) In determining the amount of a penalty or compromise, the appropriateness of the penalty or compromise to the size of the business of the person charged and the gravity of the violation shall be considered.

(4) The Government may deduct the amount of a civil penalty imposed or compromised under this section from amounts it owes the person liable for the penalty.

(c) CIVIL ACTIONS TO ENFORCE.—(1) The Attorney General may bring a civil action in a United States district court to enjoin a violation of subsection (a) of this section.

(2) When practicable, the Secretary shall—

(A) notify a person against whom an action under this subsection is planned;

(B) give the person an opportunity to present that person’s views; and

(C) give the person a reasonable opportunity to comply.

(3) The failure of the Secretary to comply with paragraph (2) of this subsection does not prevent a court from granting appropriate relief.

(d) VENUE AND SERVICE.—A civil action under this section may be brought in the judicial district in which the violation occurred or the defendant is found, resides, or does business. Process in the action may be served in any other judicial district in which the defendant resides or is found. A subpoena for a witness in the action may be served in any judicial district.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1041.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
32308(a) .....	15:1946.	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §§206-208, 86 Stat. 959.
32308(b)(1) ..	15:1948(a).	
32308(b) ..	15:1948(b).	
(2)-(4).		
32308(c) .....	15:1947 (1st-3d sentences).	
32308(d) .....	15:1947 (last sentence).	
	15:1948(c).	

In subsection (a)(1), the words “data or” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b)(1), the words “Each failure to provide information or comply with a regulation” are substituted for “with respect to each failure or refusal to comply with a requirement thereunder” for clarity.

In subsection (c), the words “The Attorney General may bring a civil action” are substituted for “Upon petition by the Attorney General on behalf of the United States” for consistency with rule 2 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 App. U.S.C.) and to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “for cause shown” are omitted as surplus. The words “and subject to the provisions of rule 65(a) and (b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure” are omitted as surplus because the rules apply in the absence of an exception from them.

Subsection (d) is substituted for 15:1947 (last sentence) and 1948(c) for clarity and consistency in this part by restating 15:1917(c)(3) and (4).

**§ 32309. Civil penalty for labeling violations**

(a) DEFINITIONS.—The definitions in section 32304 of this title apply to this section.

(b) PENALTIES.—A manufacturer of a passenger motor vehicle distributed in commerce for sale

in the United States that willfully fails to attach the label required under section 32304 of this title to a new passenger motor vehicle that the manufacturer manufactures or imports, or a dealer that fails to maintain that label as required under section 32304, is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 for each violation. Each failure to attach or maintain that label for each vehicle is a separate violation.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1042; Pub. L. 103-429, §6(31), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4380.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES  
PUB. L. 103-272

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
32309(a) .....	(no source).	
32309(b) .....	15:1950(e).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, 86 Stat. 947, §210(e); added Oct. 6, 1992, Pub. L. 102-388, §355, 106 Stat. 1557.

Subsection (a) is added to ensure that the definitions in 15:1950(f), restated in section 32304 of the revised title, apply to the source provision restated in this section.

In subsection (b), the words “Each failure to attach or maintain that label” are substituted for “Such failure” for clarity.

PUB. L. 103-429

This amends the catchline for 49:32309 to correct an error in the codification enacted by section 1 of the Act of July 5, 1994 (Public Law 103-272, 108 Stat. 1042).

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-429 substituted “Civil” for “Criminal” in section catchline.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-429 effective July 5, 1994, see section 9 of Pub. L. 103-429, set out as a note under section 321 of this title.

CHAPTER 325—BUMPER STANDARDS

Sec.	
32501.	Purpose.
32502.	Bumper standards.
32503.	Judicial review of bumper standards.
32504.	Certificates of compliance.
32505.	Information and compliance requirements.
32506.	Prohibited acts.
32507.	Penalties and enforcement.
32508.	Civil actions by owners of passenger motor vehicles.
32509.	Information and assistance from other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities.
[32510.	Repealed.]
32511.	Relationship to other motor vehicle standards.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-362, title XV, §1501(e)(2), Nov. 10, 1998, 112 Stat. 3295, struck out item 32510 “Annual report”.

CHAPTER REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This chapter is referred to in section 30113 of this title; title 18 section 2721.

§ 32501. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to reduce economic loss resulting from damage to passenger

motor vehicles involved in motor vehicle accidents by providing for the maintenance and enforcement of bumper standards.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1042.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
32501 .....	15:1911.	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §101, 86 Stat. 948.

The words “The Congress finds that it is necessary” are omitted as surplus. The word “maintenance” is substituted for “promulgation” for clarity.

§ 32502. Bumper standards

(a) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND NONAPPLICATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe by regulation bumper standards for passenger motor vehicles and may prescribe by regulation bumper standards for passenger motor vehicle equipment manufactured in, or imported into, the United States. A standard does not apply to a passenger motor vehicle or passenger motor vehicle equipment—

- (1) intended only for export;
- (2) labeled for export on the vehicle or equipment and the outside of any container of the vehicle or equipment; and
- (3) exported.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—A standard under this section—

- (1) may not conflict with a motor vehicle safety standard prescribed under chapter 301 of this title;
- (2) may not specify a dollar amount for the cost of repairing damage to a passenger motor vehicle; and
- (3) to the greatest practicable extent, may not preclude the attachment of a detachable hitch.

(c) EXEMPTIONS.—For good cause, the Secretary may exempt from all or any part of a standard—

- (1) a multipurpose passenger vehicle;
- (2) a make, model, or class of a passenger motor vehicle manufactured for a special use, if the standard would interfere unreasonably with the special use of the vehicle; or
- (3) a passenger motor vehicle for which an application for an exemption under section 30013(b)<sup>1</sup> of this title has been filed in accordance with the requirements of that section.

(d) COST REDUCTION AND CONSIDERATIONS.—When prescribing a standard under this section, the Secretary shall design the standard to obtain the maximum feasible reduction of costs to the public, considering—

- (1) the costs and benefits of carrying out the standard;
- (2) the effect of the standard on insurance costs and legal fees and costs;
- (3) savings in consumer time and inconvenience; and
- (4) health and safety, including emission standards.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be section “30113(b)”.