

defined in section 5302(a)(6)¹ established to provide, or make a contract providing for, commuter rail passenger transportation;

(5) the term “rail carrier” means a person, other than a governmental authority, providing common carrier railroad transportation for compensation subject to the jurisdiction of the Board under chapter 105;

(6) the term “segregated fixed guideway facility” means a fixed guideway facility constructed within the railroad right-of-way of a rail carrier but physically separate from trackage, including relocated trackage, within the right-of-way used by a rail carrier for freight transportation purposes; and

(7) the term “trackage” means a railroad line of a rail carrier, including a spur, industrial, team, switching, side, yard, or station track, and a facility of a rail carrier.

(Added Pub. L. 110-432, div. B, title IV, §401(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4955.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 5302, referred to in par. (4), was amended generally by Pub. L. 112-141, div. B, §20004, July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 623, and, as so amended, no longer contains a subsec. (a). However, the term “local governmental authority” is defined elsewhere in that section.

§ 28502. Surface Transportation Board mediation of trackage use requests

If, after a reasonable period of negotiation, a public transportation authority cannot reach agreement with a rail carrier to use trackage of, and have related services provided by, the rail carrier for purposes of commuter rail passenger transportation, the public transportation authority or the rail carrier may apply to the Board for nonbinding mediation. The Board shall conduct the nonbinding mediation in accordance with the mediation process of section 1109.4 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of this section.

(Added Pub. L. 110-432, div. B, title IV, §401(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4955.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this section, referred to in text, is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-432, which was approved Oct. 16, 2008.

§ 28503. Surface Transportation Board mediation of rights-of-way use requests

If, after a reasonable period of negotiation, a public transportation authority cannot reach agreement with a rail carrier to acquire an interest in a railroad right-of-way for the construction and operation of a segregated fixed guideway facility to provide commuter rail passenger transportation, the public transportation authority or the rail carrier may apply to the Board for nonbinding mediation. The Board shall conduct the nonbinding mediation in accordance with the mediation process of section 1109.4 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of this section.

¹ See References in Text note below.

(Added Pub. L. 110-432, div. B, title IV, §401(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4956.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this section, referred to in text, is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-432, which was approved Oct. 16, 2008.

§ 28504. Applicability of other laws

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit a rail transportation provider’s right under section 28103(b) to enter into contracts that allocate financial responsibility for claims.

(Added Pub. L. 110-432, div. B, title IV, §401(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4956.)

§ 28505. Rules and regulations

Within 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Board shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out this chapter.

(Added Pub. L. 110-432, div. B, title IV, §401(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4956.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this section, referred to in text, is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-432, which was approved Oct. 16, 2008.

SUBTITLE VI—MOTOR VEHICLE AND DRIVER PROGRAMS

PART A—GENERAL

Chapter		Sec.
301.	Motor Vehicle Safety	30101
303.	National Driver Register	30301
305.	National Motor Vehicle Title Information System	30501

PART B—COMMERCIAL

311.	Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety ..	31101¹
313.	Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators	31301
315.	Motor Carrier Safety	31501
317.	Participation in International Registration Plan and International Fuel Tax Agreement	31701

PART C—INFORMATION, STANDARDS, AND REQUIREMENTS

321.	General	32101
323.	Consumer Information	32301
325.	Bumper Standards	32501
327.	Odometers	32701
329.	Automobile Fuel Economy	32901
331.	Theft Prevention	33101

AMENDMENTS

1997—Pub. L. 105-102, §2(17), Nov. 20, 1997, 111 Stat. 2205, substituted “National Motor Vehicle Title Information System” for “National Automobile Title Information System” in item for chapter 305.

PART A—GENERAL

CHAPTER 301—MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL

Sec.	
30101.	Purpose and policy.

¹ So in original. Probably should be “31100”.

- Sec.
- 30102. Definitions.
- 30103. Relationship to other laws.
- 30104. Authorization of appropriations.
- 30105. Restriction on lobbying activities.
- 30106. Rented or leased motor vehicle safety and responsibility.

SUBCHAPTER II—STANDARDS AND COMPLIANCE

- 30111. Standards.
- 30112. Prohibitions on manufacturing, selling, and importing noncomplying motor vehicles and equipment.
- 30113. General exemptions.
- 30114. Special exemptions.
- 30115. Certification of compliance.
- 30116. Defects and noncompliance found before sale to purchaser.
- 30117. Providing information to, and maintaining records on, purchasers.
- 30118. Notification of defects and noncompliance.
- 30119. Notification procedures.
- 30120. Remedies for defects and noncompliance.
- 30120A. Recall obligations and bankruptcy of a manufacturer.
- 30121. Provisional notification and civil actions to enforce.
- 30122. Making safety devices and elements inoperative.
- 30123. Tires.
- 30124. Nonuse of safety belts.
- 30125. Schoolbuses and schoolbus equipment.
- 30126. Used motor vehicles.
- 30127. Automatic occupant crash protection and seat belt use.
- 30128. Vehicle accident ejection protection.¹

SUBCHAPTER III—IMPORTING NONCOMPLYING MOTOR VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

- 30141. Importing motor vehicles capable of complying with standards.
- 30142. Importing motor vehicles for personal use.
- 30143. Motor vehicles imported by individuals employed outside the United States.
- 30144. Importing motor vehicles on a temporary basis.
- 30145. Importing motor vehicles or equipment requiring further manufacturing.
- 30146. Release of motor vehicles and bonds.
- 30147. Responsibility for defects and noncompliance.

SUBCHAPTER IV—ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE

- 30161. Judicial review of standards.
- 30162. Petitions by interested persons for standards and enforcement.
- 30163. Actions by the Attorney General.
- 30164. Service of process; conditions on importation of vehicles and equipment.
- 30165. Civil penalty.
- 30166. Inspections, investigations, and records.
- 30167. Disclosure of information by the Secretary of Transportation.
- [30168. Repealed.]
- 30169. Annual reports.
- 30170. Criminal penalties.
- 30171. Protection of employees providing motor vehicle safety information.
- 30172. Whistleblower incentives and protections.

SUBCHAPTER V—MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- 30181. Policy.
- 30182. Powers and duties.
- 30183. Prohibition on certain disclosures.

AMENDMENTS

2015—Pub. L. 114-94, div. B, title XXIV, § 24352(c), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1720, which directed amendment of the

analysis for subchapter IV of this chapter by adding item 30172 at the end, was executed by adding item 30172 to the analysis for this chapter to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

2012—Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title I, §§ 31202(b), 31204(b)(1), (2)(A), 31208(1), 31307(c), 31312(b), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 758, 760, 761, 769, 772, added items 30120A and 30171, item for subchapter V, and items 30181 to 30183, substituted “Nonuse of safety belts” for “Buzzers indicating nonuse of safety belts” in item 30124 and “Service of process; conditions on importation of vehicles and equipment” for “Service of process” in item 30164, and struck out item 30168 “Research, testing, development, and training”.

2005—Pub. L. 109-59, title X, § 10303(a), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1940, which directed amendment of the table of sections for chapter 301 by adding item 30128, without specifying the title to be amended, was executed to the table of sections for this chapter, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Pub. L. 109-59, title X, § 10208(b), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1936, added item 30106.

2000—Pub. L. 106-414, § 5(b)(2), Nov. 1, 2000, 114 Stat. 1804, added item 30170.

1998—Pub. L. 105-178, title VII, § 7104(b), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 467, added item 30105.

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL

§ 30101. Purpose and policy

The purpose of this chapter is to reduce traffic accidents and deaths and injuries resulting from traffic accidents. Therefore it is necessary—

- (1) to prescribe motor vehicle safety standards for motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment in interstate commerce; and
- (2) to carry out needed safety research and development.

(Pub. L. 103-272, § 1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 941.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
30101	15:1381.	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-563, § 1, 80 Stat. 718.

The words “Congress hereby declares that”, “to persons”, and “Congress determines that” are omitted as surplus. The words “motor vehicle” before “equipment” are added for consistency. The words “and to expand the national driver register” are omitted because section 401 of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-563, 80 Stat. 730), the only section in this law related to the national driver register, was superseded by the National Driver Register Act of 1982 (Public Law 97-364, 96 Stat. 1740).

SHORT TITLE OF 2015 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 114-94, div. B, title XXIV, § 24109(a), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1706, provided that: “This section [amending sections 30102, 30120, 30122, and 30166 of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 30102 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Raechel and Jacqueline Houck Safe Rental Car Act of 2015’.”

Pub. L. 114-94, div. B, title XXIV, § 24321, Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1713, provided that: “This part [part II (§§ 24321, 24322) of subtitle C of title XXIV of div. B of Pub. L. 114-94, amending section 32302 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Safety Through Informed Consumers Act of 2015’.”

Pub. L. 114-94, div. B, title XXIV, § 24331, Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1713, provided that: “This part [part III (§§ 24331-24335) of subtitle C of title XXIV of div. B of Pub. L. 114-94, amending sections 30117 and 32304A of this title and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 30119 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Tire Efficiency, Safety, and Registration Act of 2015’ or the ‘TESR Act’.”

¹ So in original. Does not conform to section catchline.