

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2775

To amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure the safe operations of  
small commercial vans.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 5, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. ROTHMAN) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure the safe  
operations of small commercial vans.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Safe and Efficient Pas-  
5       senger Van Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. STATE AUTHORITY TO REGULATE SMALL COMMER-**  
7       **CIAL VANS.**

8       Section 14501(a) of title 49, United States Code, is  
9       amended by adding at the end the following:

1           “(3) AUTHORITY OF STATES TO ENSURE THE  
2       SAFE OPERATIONS OF SMALL COMMERCIAL VANS.—

3           “(A) COMMERCIAL VAN DEFINED.—For  
4       purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘commer-  
5       cial van’ means a motor vehicle providing reg-  
6       ular route transportation service for compensa-  
7       tion and having a capacity of not more than 15  
8       passengers, including the driver.

9           “(B) GENERAL RULE.—Notwithstanding  
10      paragraph (1), a State may regulate operations  
11      of commercial vans to ensure that such  
12      operations—

13           “(i) are safe for passengers and the  
14      public;

15           “(ii) only load and unload passengers  
16      at locations that are safe for such pur-  
17      poses;

18           “(iii) do not interfere with the flow of  
19      traffic or significantly worsen road conges-  
20      tion; and

21           “(iv) are limited to routes approved by  
22      the States.

23           “(C) INCLUDED ACTIVITIES.—Exercising  
24      the authority provided by subparagraph (B)  
25      may include limiting the number of commercial

1 vans operating on any route and inspecting  
2 such vans.

3 “(D) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—A  
4 State may delegate to political subdivisions of  
5 the State the authority to regulate operations of  
6 commercial vans.”.

7 **SEC. 3. USE OF MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY GRANTS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 31102(c) of title 49,  
9 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the  
10 following:

11 “(4) Oversight and enforcement of State regu-  
12 lations relating to operations of commercial vans  
13 issued under the authority of section 14501(a)(3).”.

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 31102 of  
15 such title is further amended—

16 (1) in subsection (b)(1) by aligning subpara-  
17 graph (A) with subparagraph (B) of such sub-  
18 section;

19 (2) in subsections (c)(1) and (c)(3) by striking  
20 “enforcement” and inserting “Enforcement”; and

21 (3) in subsection (c)(2) by striking “detection”  
22 and inserting “Detection”.

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