

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2095

To provide for the safety of migrant seasonal agricultural workers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 24, 2000

Mrs. FEINSTEIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To provide for the safety of migrant seasonal agricultural workers.

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 “Farm Worker Trans-
5 portation Safety Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SEATS AND SEAT BELTS FOR MIGRANT AND SEA-**
7 **SONAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.**

8 (a) SEATS.—Except as provided in subsection (d), in
9 promulgating vehicle safety standards under the Migrant
10 and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act (29
11 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) for the transportation of migrant and

1 seasonal agricultural workers by farm labor contractors,
2 agricultural employers or agricultural associations, the
3 Secretary of Labor shall ensure that each occupant or
4 rider in, or on, any vehicle subject to such standards is
5 provided with a seat that is a designated seating position
6 (as such term is defined for purposes of the Federal motor
7 vehicle safety standards issued under chapter 301 of title
8 49, United States Code).

9 (b) SEAT BELTS.—Each seating position required
10 under subsection (a) shall be equipped with an operational
11 seat belt, except that this subsection shall not apply with
12 respect to seating positions in buses that would otherwise
13 not be required to have seat belts under the Federal motor
14 vehicle safety standards.

15 (c) PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months
17 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
18 retary of Transportation, in consultation with the
19 Secretary of Labor, shall issue minimum perform-
20 ance requirements for the strength of seats and the
21 attachment of seats and seat belts in vehicles that
22 are converted, after being sold for purposes other
23 than resale, for the purpose of transporting migrant
24 or seasonal agricultural workers. The requirements
25 shall provide a level of safety that is as close as

1 practicable to the level of safety provided for in a ve-
2 hicle that is manufactured or altered for the purpose
3 of transporting such workers before being sold for
4 purposes other than resale.

5 (2) EXPIRATION.—Effective on the date that is
6 7 years after the date of enactment of this Act, any
7 vehicle that is or has been converted for the purpose
8 of transporting migrant or seasonal agricultural
9 workers shall provide the same level of safety as a
10 vehicle that is manufactured or altered for such pur-
11 pose prior to being sold for purposes other than re-
12 sale.

13 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
14 tion shall be construed to alter or modify the regulations
15 contained in section 500.103, or the provision pertaining
16 to transportation that is primarily on private roads in sec-
17 tion 500.104(l), of title 29, Code of Federal Regulations,
18 as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

19 (e) DEFINITIONS.—The definitions contained in sec-
20 tion 3 of the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker
21 Protection Act (29 U.S.C. 1802) shall apply to this sec-
22 tion.

1 (f) COMPLIANCE DATE.—Not later than 1 year after
2 such date of enactment, all vehicles subject to this Act
3 shall be in compliance with the requirements of this Act.

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