

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2028

To improve tire safety and labeling, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 26, 2004

Mr. DEWINE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To improve tire safety and labeling, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Tire Safety Awareness  
5 Act of 2004”.

6       **SEC. 2. DATE OF MANUFACTURE INFORMATION.**

7       (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-  
9 portation shall, in consultation with the Administrator of  
10 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, un-  
11 dertake to modify the regulations relating to tire safety  
12 that are administered by the Administration through the

1 promulgation of regulations that require that such date  
2 of manufacture information is disclosed clearly and under-  
3 standably, in writing, to consumers at the point of sale  
4 on an invoice, sales receipt, or equivalent record.

5 (b) EXCEPTION.—The date of manufacture informa-  
6 tion required to be disclosed pursuant to the regulations  
7 promulgated under subsection (a) shall not apply to tires  
8 that are—

9 (1) sold with new motor vehicles;

10 (2) exempt from testing under Federal Motor  
11 Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 139; or

12 (3) sold for use on vehicles with a gross vehicle  
13 weight of 10,001 pounds or more.

14 **SEC. 3. REPORT ON TIRE SAFETY.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the  
16 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-  
17 portation shall enter into a cooperative agreement with the  
18 National Academy of Sciences to commission a report to  
19 Congress on the effects of age on light vehicle tires (within  
20 the meaning of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard  
21 (FMVSS) 139), including—

22 (1) a study of the effect on tire safety resulting  
23 from tire aging characteristics, including but not  
24 limited to the chemical breakdown and oxidation

1 that occur over time with respect to tires, irrespec-  
2 tive of use;

3 (2) recommendations on how to best commu-  
4 nicate information, including tire aging characteris-  
5 tics, to consumers, and an assessment of the utility  
6 and benefits of this information with respect to  
7 motor vehicle safety;

8 (3) an examination of whether the imposition of  
9 limits on the age of tires available for sale in inter-  
10 state commerce would enhance motor vehicle safety;

11 (4) an examination of—

12 (A) currently available, scientifically prov-  
13 en technologies that may assist consumers in  
14 assessing tire age; and

15 (B) the feasibility of developing tech-  
16 nologies in the future that may assist con-  
17 sumers in assessing tire age; and

18 (5) any other information the Secretary deter-  
19 mines appropriate.

20 (b) CONSIDERATION OF EXISTING RESOURCES.—

21 The report shall take into consideration relevant scientific  
22 studies performed by the National Highway Traffic Safety  
23 Administration and the American Society for Testing and  
24 Materials Committee F09 on Tires.

1           (c) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall submit  
2 the report to Congress not later than 3 years after the  
3 date of the enactment of this Act.

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