

or purchaser”, “the purpose of”, and “to which the order relates” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (d), the words “Notwithstanding section 30163(c) of this title” are added for clarity. The words “An action under section 1399(a) of this title to restrain a violation of an order . . . or under section 1398 of this title to collect a civil penalty with respect to a violation of such an order” and “to which the order applies” are omitted as surplus. The words “may transfer the action” are substituted for “orders a change of venue” for consistency with 28:1404. The words “(including enforcement actions)” are omitted as surplus. The words “that court shall issue the consolidation order” are substituted for “by order of such other court” for clarity.

§ 30122. Making safety devices and elements inoperative

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, “motor vehicle repair business” means a person holding itself out to the public to repair for compensation a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment.

(b) PROHIBITION.—A manufacturer, distributor, dealer, rental company, or motor vehicle repair business may not knowingly make inoperative any part of a device or element of design installed on or in a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment in compliance with an applicable motor vehicle safety standard prescribed under this chapter unless the manufacturer, distributor, dealer, rental company, or repair business reasonably believes the vehicle or equipment will not be used (except for testing or a similar purpose during maintenance or repair) when the device or element is inoperative.

(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Transportation may prescribe regulations—

- (1) to exempt a person from this section if the Secretary decides the exemption is consistent with motor vehicle safety and section 30101 of this title; and
- (2) to define “make inoperative”.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 956; Pub. L. 112–141, div. C, title I, §31202(a)(1), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 757; Pub. L. 114–94, div. B, title XXIV, §24109(d), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1707.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
30122(a)	15:1397(a)(2)(A) (last sentence).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89–563, 80 Stat. 718, §108(a)(2)(A)–(C); added Oct. 27, 1974, Pub. L. 93–492, §103(a)(1)(A), 88 Stat. 1477.
30122(b)	15:1397(a)(2)(A) (1st sentence).	
30122(c)	15:1397(a)(2)(B).	
30122(d)	15:1397(a)(2)(C).	

In subsections (a) and (c), the words “the term” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (a), the words “in the business of” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b), the words “an applicable motor vehicle safety standard prescribed under this chapter” are substituted for “an applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standard” for consistency. The words “of design” the 2d time they appear and “rendered” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (c)(1), the words “section 30101 of this title” are substituted for “the purposes of this chapter” as being more precise.

In subsection (d), the words “with respect . . . the rendering inoperative of” are omitted as surplus.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2015—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 114–94 inserted “rental company,” after “dealer,” in two places.

2012—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 112–141 struck out subsec. (d). Text read as follows: “This section does not apply to a safety belt interlock or buzzer designed to indicate a safety belt is not in use as described in section 30124 of this title.”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2015 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 114–94 effective on the date that is 180 days after Dec. 4, 2015, see section 24109(k) of Pub. L. 114–94, set out as a note under section 30102 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112–141 effective Oct. 1, 2012, see section 3(a) of Pub. L. 112–141, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 2012 Amendment note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.

§ 30123. Tires

(a) REGROOVED TIRE LIMITATIONS.—(1) In this subsection, “regrooved tire” means a tire with a new tread produced by cutting into the tread of a worn tire.

(2) The Secretary may authorize the sale, offer for sale, introduction for sale, or delivery for introduction in interstate commerce, of a regrooved tire or a motor vehicle equipped with regrooved tires if the Secretary decides the tires are designed and made in a way consistent with section 30101 of this title. A person may not sell, offer for sale, introduce for sale, or deliver for introduction in interstate commerce, a regrooved tire or a vehicle equipped with regrooved tires unless authorized by the Secretary.

(b) UNIFORM QUALITY GRADING SYSTEM, NOMENCLATURE, AND MARKETING PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall prescribe through standards a uniform quality grading system for motor vehicle tires to help consumers make an informed choice when purchasing tires. The Secretary also shall cooperate with industry and the Federal Trade Commission to the greatest extent practicable to eliminate deceptive and confusing tire nomenclature and marketing practices. A tire standard or regulation prescribed under this chapter supersedes an order or administrative interpretation of the Commission.

(c) MAXIMUM LOAD STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall require a motor vehicle to be equipped with tires that meet maximum load standards when the vehicle is loaded with a reasonable amount of luggage and the total number of passengers the vehicle is designed to carry. The vehicle shall be equipped with those tires by the manufacturer or by the first purchaser when the vehicle is first bought in good faith other than for resale.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 956; Pub. L. 105–178, title VII, §7106(b), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 467.)