

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 962.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
30142(a)	15:1397(f)(1).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-563, 80 Stat. 718, §108(f); added Oct. 31, 1988, Pub. L. 100-562, §2(b), 102 Stat. 2822.
30142(b)	15:1397(f)(2).	

In subsection (a)(2), the words “after January 31, 1990” are substituted for “after the effective date of the regulations initially issued to implement the amendments made to this section by the Imported Vehicle Safety Compliance Act of 1988” for clarity. See 49 C.F.R. part 591.

In subsection (a)(3), the words “the individual takes the actions required under subsection (b) of this section” are substituted for “if that individual takes the actions required by paragraph (2)” for clarity and because of the restatement.

In subsection (b)(1), the word “compliance” is substituted for “conformity” for consistency in this chapter.

In subsection (b)(1)(B), before subclause (i), the word “conditions” is omitted as being included in “terms”.

§ 30143. Motor vehicles imported by individuals employed outside the United States

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, “assigned place of employment” means—

- (1) the principal location at which an individual is permanently or indefinitely assigned to work; and
- (2) for a member of the uniformed services, the individual’s permanent duty station.

(b) GENERAL.—Section 30112(a) of this title does not apply to a motor vehicle imported for personal use, and not for resale, by an individual—

- (1) whose assigned place of employment was outside the United States as of October 31, 1988, and who has not had an assigned place of employment in the United States from that date through the date the vehicle is imported into the United States;
- (2) who previously had not imported a motor vehicle into the United States under this section or section 108(g) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 or, before October 31, 1988, under section 108(b)(3) of that Act;
- (3) who acquired, or made a binding contract to acquire, the vehicle before October 31, 1988;
- (4) who imported the vehicle into the United States not later than October 31, 1992; and
- (5) who satisfies section 108(b)(3) of that Act as in effect on October 30, 1988.

(c) CERTIFICATION.—Subsection (b) of this section is carried out by certification in the form the Secretary of Transportation or the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 963.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
30143(a)	15:1397(g) (3d, last sentences).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-563, 80 Stat. 718, §108(g); added Oct. 31, 1988, Pub. L. 100-562, §2(b), 102 Stat. 2823.

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES—CONTINUED

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
30143(b), (c)	15:1397(g) (1st, 2d sentences).	

In subsection (b), before clause (1), the words “(including a member of the uniformed services)” are omitted as unnecessary because of the restatement. In clause (1), the words “from that date through the date the vehicle is imported into the United States” are substituted for “that date and the date of entry of such motor vehicle” for clarity and consistency in this chapter. In clause (2), the words “under this section or section 108(g) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966” are substituted for “this subsection” to preserve the exemption for motor vehicles imported under the source provisions between October 30, 1988, and the effective date of this restatement. In clause (4), the word “imports” is substituted for “enters” for clarity and consistency in this chapter. In clause (5) the word “satisfies” is substituted for “meets the terms, conditions, and other requirements . . . under” to eliminate unnecessary words.

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Subsections (b)(3) and (g) of section 108 of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), (5), are subsecs. (b)(3) and (g) of section 108 of Pub. L. 89-563, which were classified to subsecs. (b)(3) and (g), respectively, of section 1397 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, were repealed and reenacted in sections 30112(b)(1)–(3) and 30143, respectively, of this title by Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), 7(b), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 945, 963, 1379.

§ 30144. Importing motor vehicles on a temporary basis

(a) GENERAL.—Section 30112(a) of this title does not apply to a motor vehicle imported on a temporary basis for personal use by an individual who is a member of—

- (1)(A) the personnel of the government of a foreign country on assignment in the United States or a member of the Secretariat of a public international organization designated under the International Organizations Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288 et seq.); and
- (B) the class of individuals for whom the Secretary of State has authorized free importation of motor vehicles; or
- (2) the armed forces of a foreign country on assignment in the United States.

(b) VERIFICATION.—The Secretary of Transportation or the Secretary of the Treasury may require verification, that the Secretary of Transportation considers appropriate, that an individual is a member described under subsection (a) of this section. The Secretary of Transportation shall ensure that a motor vehicle imported under this section will be exported (at no cost to the United States Government) or abandoned to the Government when the individual no longer—

- (1) resides in the United States; and
- (2) is a member described under subsection (a) of this section.

(c) SALE IN THE UNITED STATES.—A motor vehicle imported under this section may not be sold when in the United States.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 964; Pub. L. 104-287, §5(57), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3394.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES
PUB. L. 103-272

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
30144(a)	15:1397(h) (1st sentence).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-563, 80 Stat. 718, §108(h); added Oct. 31, 1988, Pub. L. 100-562, §2(b), 102 Stat. 2823.
30144(b)	15:1397(h) (2d, 3d sentences).	
30144(c)	15:1397(h) (last sentence).	

In subsection (a)(1)(B), the word “importation” is substituted for “entry” for clarity and consistency in this chapter.

In subsection (b), before clause (1), the words “that an individual is a member described under subsection (a) of this section” are substituted for “such status” for clarity. The word “imported” is substituted for “entered” for clarity and consistency in this chapter. In clause (2), the words “a member described under subsection (a) of this section” are substituted for “hold such status” for clarity.

PUB. L. 104-287

This amends 49:30144(a)(1)(A) to correct an erroneous cross-reference.

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The International Organizations Immunities Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(A), is title I of act Dec. 29, 1945, ch. 652, 59 Stat. 669, which is classified principally to subchapter XVIII (§288 et seq.) of chapter 7 of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 288 of Title 22 and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a)(1)(A). Pub. L. 104-287 substituted “International Organizations” for “International Organization”.

§ 30145. Importing motor vehicles or equipment requiring further manufacturing

Section 30112(a) of this title does not apply to a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment if the vehicle or equipment—

(1) requires further manufacturing to perform its intended function as decided under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation; and

(2) is accompanied at the time of importation by a written statement issued by the manufacturer indicating the applicable motor vehicle safety standard prescribed under this chapter with which it does not comply.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 964.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
30145	15:1397(e).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-563, 80 Stat. 718, §108(e); added Oct. 31, 1988, Pub. L. 100-562, §2(b), 102 Stat. 2822.

In clause (2), the word “importation” is substituted for “entry” for clarity and consistency in this chapter.

The words “of the incomplete motor vehicle or item of equipment” are omitted as unnecessary because of the restatement. The words “prescribed under this chapter” are substituted for “Federal” for consistency in this chapter.

§ 30146. Release of motor vehicles and bonds

(a) COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION AND BOND.—(1) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, an importer registered under section 30141(c) of this title may license or register an imported motor vehicle for use on public streets, roads, or highways, or release custody of a motor vehicle imported by the registered importer or imported by an individual under section 30142 of this title and altered by the registered importer to meet applicable motor vehicle safety standards prescribed under this chapter to a person for license or registration for use on public streets, roads, or highways, only after 30 days after the registered importer certifies to the Secretary of Transportation, in the way the Secretary prescribes, that the motor vehicle complies with each standard prescribed in the year the vehicle was manufactured and that applies in that year to that vehicle. A vehicle may not be released if the Secretary gives written notice before the end of the 30-day period that the Secretary will inspect the vehicle under subsection (c) of this section.

(2) The Secretaries of Transportation and the Treasury shall prescribe regulations—

(A) ensuring the release of a motor vehicle and bond required under section 30141(d) of this title at the end of the 30-day period, unless the Secretary of Transportation issues a notice of an inspection under subsection (c) of this section; and

(B) providing that the Secretary of Transportation shall release the vehicle and bond promptly after an inspection under subsection (c) of this section showing compliance with the standards applicable to the vehicle.

(3) Each registered importer shall include on each motor vehicle released under this subsection a label prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation identifying the importer and stating that the vehicle has been altered by the importer to comply with the standards applicable to the vehicle.

(b) RELIANCE ON MANUFACTURER’S CERTIFICATION.—In making a certification under subsection (a)(1) of this section, the registered importer may rely on the manufacturer’s certification for the model to which the motor vehicle involved is substantially similar if the importer certifies that any alteration made by the importer did not affect the compliance of the safety features of the vehicle and the importer keeps records verifying the certification for the period the Secretary of Transportation prescribes.

(c) EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE.—(1) The Secretary of Transportation may require that the certification under subsection (a)(1) of this section be accompanied by evidence of compliance the Secretary considers appropriate or may inspect the certified motor vehicle, or both. If the Secretary gives notice of an inspection, an importer may release the vehicle only after—

(A) an inspection showing the motor vehicle complies with applicable motor vehicle safety