

**§ 32301. Definitions**

In this chapter—

- (1) “crash avoidance” means preventing or mitigating a crash;
- (2) “crashworthiness” means the protection a passenger motor vehicle gives its passengers against personal injury or death from a motor vehicle accident; and
- (3) “damage susceptibility” means the susceptibility of a passenger motor vehicle to damage in a motor vehicle accident.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1035; Pub. L. 112–141, div. C, title I, §31305(a), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 765.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
32301 .....	15:1901(13), (14).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92–513, §2(13), (14), 86 Stat. 948; Dec. 22, 1975, Pub. L. 94–163, §301, 89 Stat. 901; Oct. 10, 1980, Pub. L. 96–425, §8(a)(2), 94 Stat. 1828; Oct. 25, 1984, Pub. L. 98–547, §101(b), 98 Stat. 2767.

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2012—Pub. L. 112–141 added par. (1), redesignated former pars. (1) and (2) as (2) and (3), respectively, and, in par. (2), substituted “; and” for period at end.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

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.

**§ 32302. Passenger motor vehicle information**

(a) INFORMATION PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Transportation (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall maintain a program for developing the following information on passenger motor vehicles:

- (1) damage susceptibility.
- (2) crashworthiness, crash avoidance, and any other areas the Secretary determines will improve the safety of passenger motor vehicles.
- (3) the degree of difficulty of diagnosis and repair of damage to, or failure of, mechanical and electrical systems.

(b) MOTOR VEHICLE INFORMATION.—To assist a consumer in buying a passenger motor vehicle, the Secretary shall provide to the public information developed under subsection (a) of this section. The information shall be in a simple and understandable form that allows comparison of the characteristics referred to in subsection (a)(1)–(3) of this section among the makes and models of passenger motor vehicles. The Secretary may require passenger motor vehicle dealers to distribute the information to prospective buyers. The Secretary, after providing an opportunity for public comment, shall study and report to Congress the most useful data, format, and method for providing simple

and understandable damage susceptibility information to consumers.

(c) CRASH AVOIDANCE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Safety Through Informed Consumers Act of 2015, the Secretary shall promulgate a rule to ensure that crash avoidance information is indicated next to crashworthiness information on stickers placed on motor vehicles by their manufacturers.

(d) MOTOR VEHICLE DEFECT REPORTING INFORMATION.—

(1) RULEMAKING REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Motor Vehicle and Highway Safety Improvement Act of 2012, the Secretary shall prescribe regulations that require passenger motor vehicle manufacturers—

(A) to affix, in the glove compartment or in another readily accessible location on the vehicle, a sticker, decal, or other device that provides, in simple and understandable language, information about how to submit a safety-related motor vehicle defect complaint to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration;

(B) to prominently print the information described in subparagraph (A) within the owner’s manual; and

(C) to not place such information on the label required under section 3 of the Automobile Information Disclosure Act (15 U.S.C. 1232).

(2) APPLICATION.—The requirements under paragraph (1) shall apply to passenger motor vehicles manufactured in any model year beginning more than 1 year after the date on which a final rule is published under paragraph (1).

(e) ADVANCED CRASH-AVOIDANCE TECHNOLOGIES.—

(1) NOTICE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall publish a notice, for purposes of public review and comment, to establish, distinct from crashworthiness information, a means for providing to consumers information relating to advanced crash-avoidance technologies, in accordance with subsection (a).

(2) INCLUSIONS.—The notice under paragraph (1) shall include—

- (A) an appropriate methodology for—
  - (i) determining which advanced crash-avoidance technologies shall be included in the information;
  - (ii) developing performance test criteria for use by manufacturers in evaluating advanced crash-avoidance technologies;
  - (iii) determining a distinct rating involving each advanced crash-avoidance technology to be included; and
  - (iv) updating overall vehicle ratings to incorporate advanced crash-avoidance technology ratings; and

(B) such other information and analyses as the Secretary determines to be necessary to implement the rating of advanced crash-avoidance technologies.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this subsection, the