

VIRGINIA

BUCKLE-UP LAWS

2010-11

CHILD RESTRAINT LAW: PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT

46.2-1095 (A)

Summons driver if they fail to properly secure a child up to age eight in a child restraint device which meets federal standards. Rear facing restraints shall be placed in the back seat. If there is no back seat, the front seat may be used if the passenger side air bag is deactivated.

46.2-1095 (B)

Summons driver if they are transporting a person at least eight years of age, but less than 18 years of age, who is not properly secured by an appropriate safety belt system.

46.2-1100

Use of a standard seat belt is permitted if the child is at least four years old but less than eight years old and their weight and size would make use of an approved child restraint impractical. The driver must carry a waiver signed by a Virginia physician. (Note: Booster seats are available for children up to 100 pounds in weight and seats with an internal harness are available for children up to 80 pounds.).

46.2-1095, 46.2-1096 & 46.2-1099

Exemptions: interior design makes use impractical, public transportation, bus, school bus, farm vehicle, medical reasons if physician statement is displayed, taxicabs, executive sedans, and limousines.

46.2-1156.1

No person under age 16 shall be transported in the rear cargo area of a pickup truck. There are exemptions for certain parades and farming operations.

SAFETY BELT LAW: SECONDARY ENFORCEMENT

46.2-1094

Summons driver and each passenger 18 years of age and older occupying the front seat who is not wearing a safety belt. Exceptions: mail carriers, newspaper delivery persons, taxi drivers and passengers, certain law enforcement officers, waste collectors, meter readers and persons with physical or medical disability waivers.

(Before enforcement action is taken, review the applicable code sections.)

Compiled by:

Transportation Safety Training Center
Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia

