

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3591

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to prescribe a motor vehicle safety standard that requires new commercial motor vehicles to be equipped with an automatic emergency braking system, to require automatic emergency braking installed in commercial motor vehicles to be used while in operation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 28, 2021

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. BERGMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to prescribe a motor vehicle safety standard that requires new commercial motor vehicles to be equipped with an automatic emergency braking system, to require automatic emergency braking installed in commercial motor vehicles to be used while in operation, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Safe Roads Act of
3 2021”.

4 **SEC. 2. MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD.**

5 (a) MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD FOR TRUCK
6 TRACTORS WITH ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL.—
7 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this
8 section, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

9 (1) prescribe a motor vehicle safety standard
10 under section 30111 of title 49, United States Code,
11 that requires any truck-tractor subject to Federal
12 motor vehicle safety standard 136 (49 C.F.R.
13 571.136; relating to electronic stability control sys-
14 tems for heavy vehicles) that is manufactured after
15 the effective date of the standard to be equipped
16 with an automatic emergency braking system; and

17 (2) include standards that establish the per-
18 formance requirements for automatic emergency
19 braking systems.

20 (b) FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY REGULATION
21 FOR TRUCK TRACTORS WITH ELECTRONIC STABILITY
22 CONTROL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enact-
23 ment of this section, the Secretary shall prescribe a regu-
24 lation under section 31136 of title 49, United States Code,
25 that requires an automatic emergency braking system in-
26 stalled in any truck-tractor subject to Federal motor vehi-

1 cle safety standard 136 (49 C.F.R. 571.136; relating to
2 electronic stability control systems for heavy vehicles) in
3 operation on or after the effective date to be used at any
4 time during which the truck-tractor is in operation.

5 (c) REPORT ON AUTOMATIC EMERGENCY BRAKING
6 IN MEDIUM COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES.—Not later
7 than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section,
8 the Secretary shall—

9 (1) complete a study on equipping commercial
10 motor vehicles with automatic emergency braking to
11 avoid or mitigate a collision with an obstacle in the
12 path of the vehicle;

13 (2) submit to the Committee on Commerce,
14 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
15 Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure
16 and Energy and Commerce of the House of Rep-
17 resentatives a report on the study described in para-
18 graph (1); and

19 (3) if the Secretary determines it to be nec-
20 essary, initiate a Federal Motor Vehicle Safety
21 Standard for automatic emergency braking for all
22 commercial motor vehicles, if appropriate.

23 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 (1) AUTOMATIC EMERGENCY BRAKING SYS-
25 TEM.—The term “automatic emergency braking sys-

1 tem” means a system on a commercial motor vehicle
2 that, based on a predefined distance and closing rate
3 with respect to an obstacle in the path of the vehi-
4 cle—

5 (A) alerts the driver of the obstacle; and

6 (B) if necessary, to avoid or mitigate a col-
7 lision with the obstacle, automatically applies
8 the brakes of the vehicle.

9 (2) COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term
10 “commercial motor vehicle” means a motor vehicle
11 or truck-tractor used in commerce to transport prop-
12 erty that has a gross vehicle weight rating or a gross
13 vehicle weight of not less than 10,001 pounds.

14 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
15 the Secretary of Transportation.

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