

There are exceptions to the seat belt law:

1. Vehicles built prior to 1965 which did not have safety belts as original equipment and are not classified as a custom collector vehicle.
2. Vehicle operators acting in the course of employment delivering mail or newspapers from inside the vehicle to roadside boxes.
3. Passengers in a school bus unless the bus is required to be equipped with safety belts.
4. Passengers in an emergency vehicle.
5. People or a class of people exempt by the Commissioner of Public Safety, as defined by regulations.

A driver may be fined up to \$50 and may receive two demerit points on their operator's license for failure to restrain passengers under age 16. Adult violations are subject to a \$15 fine.

A provision of the law allows the court to waive the \$15 fine for persons convicted under this law if that person donates \$15 to the EMS organization. Convicted drivers pay the fine to an EMS organization listed in the current version of the Alaska Emergency Medical Services Directory. Drivers send a copy of the citation along with the receipt from the EMS organization to the court.

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## CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEMS

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### THE NUMBER 1 CURE FOR THE GREATEST KILLER OF CHILDREN

After the critical early weeks of life for a newborn baby, automobile crashes are the leading cause of death for American children with tens of thousands more children being seriously injured. Small children, unless they are properly restrained, become flying missiles until a stationary object stops their forward progress. It is a tragic fact that most deaths and injuries resulting from automobile crashes could have been avoided if parents had taken the time to properly buckle up their children in an approved child restraint system.

There are many types of child restraint systems available at department stores, children's shops, and even through some mail order catalogs. Shop around for the car seat that will best suit your child and your car before your baby is born. Insure your baby's first ride home from the hospital is a SAFE ride!

Alaska Child Passenger Safety Coalition is comprised of representatives from numerous public and private agencies throughout the state that share a common goal of protecting children traveling on the roadways of Alaska. Members include healthcare professionals, firefighters, paramedics, law enforcement officers, injury prevention professionals, health and safety personnel, educators, parents, businesses, foundations, policymakers, and volunteers. Visit [www.carseatsak.org](http://www.carseatsak.org) for more information.



**REMEMBER:** Once your children are secured and safe... don't YOU forget YOUR safety belt!