

HR 6747

Motorcoach Enhanced Safety Act of 2008

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Jul 31, 2008

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit. (Aug 1, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/6747>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]

Party: Democratic • **State:** GA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Sep 10, 2008
Rep. Sestak, Joe [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Sep 17, 2008
Rep. Granger, Kay [R-TX-12]	R · TX		Sep 24, 2008
Rep. Burgess, Michael C. [R-TX-26]	R · TX		Sep 25, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 31, 2008
Small Business Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 31, 2008
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 1, 2008
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 31, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 S 2326	Related bill	Sep 18, 2008: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Senate Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 110-1219.

Motorcoach Enhanced Safety Act of 2008- Directs the Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) to prescribe regulations requiring motorcoaches to be installed with: (1) safety seat belts at each seating position; (2) advanced glazing in each portal to prevent passenger ejection; (3) improved firefighting equipment; and (4) enhanced compartmentalization safety countermeasures and certain other motor vehicle safety features.

Requires the Secretary to complete, and report to Congress on, a study on improving bus crashworthiness, bus crash avoidance, and bus fire protection and passenger evacuation.

Amends federal transportation law to direct the Secretary to prescribe regulations: (1) requiring providers of motorcoach services registered with the the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to undergo periodic safety reviews; (2) establishing a training curriculum and providing certification for each driver of a motorcoach seeking a commercial driver's license (CDL) passenger endorsement; (3) improving CDL testing; (4) requiring a driver of a commercial motor vehicle that transports for compensation not fewer than 9 and not more than 15 passengers to have a CDL; (5) requiring a federal medical qualification certificate to be made a part of CDLs; (6) requiring the annual review of state licensing authorities to assess the accuracy of physical examination reports and medical certificates of CDL applicants that are submitted by medical examiners to such authorities; and (7) requiring that all commercial motor vehicles be equipped with electronic on-board recorders that record driver hours of service. Sets forth a deadline for the Secretary to establish the national registry of medical examiners.

Requires a state to carry out an annual commercial motor vehicle inspection program in order to receive a grant for the development or implementation of programs for improving motor carrier safety

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow a tax credit for the purchase of qualified new motorcoaches and for the cost of improvements to existing motorcoaches to satisfy new federal safety requirements. Limits the amount of such credit to \$45,000. Terminates such credit after 2026.

Directs the Secretary to develop and administer supplemental grants, not to exceed \$20,000, for the cost of retrofitting motorcoaches to comply with federal motor vehicle safety standards. Limits eligibility for such grants to certain motorcoach operators who have a fleet of not more than 25 motorcoaches and have total annual revenues of less than \$5 million.

Amends the Small Business Act to set forth loan and loan guarantee requirements for the motorcoach industry.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 1, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.
- **Jul 31, 2008:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 31, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection.
- **Jul 31, 2008:** Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Small Business, 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.