



## Alliance for Community Traffic Safety in Oregon

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*Community Traffic Safety Program*

*Oregon Child Safety Seat Resource Center*

### Update on House Bill - HB3590



On April 7, 2011, Nick Troxel – Tillamook Police, Sandy Holt – ACTS Oregon, and Jeff Oliver – Lake Oswego Police, traveled to Salem to testify in front of the House Committee in support of House Bill 3590. As of April 29, 2011, HB3590 passed unanimously out of committee and on the House floor, and is now on its way to the Senate.

Oregon's current law regarding child passenger safety was last amended in July 2007. When the bill was adopted, the child safety seat technology at that time included internal harness systems designed for a maximum weight of 40 pounds. Since the

bill became law, child safety seat technology has advanced to include child safety seats with internal harness systems designed for use with passengers weighing up to 80 pounds. Under this law, if a person was securing a child weighing over 40 pounds in a child safety seat with an internal harness system rated to higher weights, that person would be violating ORS 811.210, because it states that a person over 40 pounds must use a booster seat.

This restriction now goes against "best practice" recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. House Bill 3590 will amend the current child passenger safety law to better reflect national best practice. It will allow parents to use a child safety seat with a harness rated over 40 pounds or to use a booster seat.