



U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

The Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Enhancement Act of 2012

The *Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Enhancement Act of 2012* (CMVSEA) improves the Department of Transportation's (DOT) safety programs administered by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to better combat truck and bus crashes. It modernizes the approach to safety by increasing the use of technology and data to drive enforcement efforts. CMVSEA will ensure that only the safest truck and bus drivers are authorized to drive on our highways, improve the safety laws and regulations that govern drivers and vehicles that operate in the industry, and enhance tools to oversee the industry.

Enhances Safety

- Safety Proficiency Exams: Requires new motor carriers to pass a safety proficiency examination before being authorized to operate a large truck or bus company.
- EOBRs: Directs the DOT to complete its rulemaking to require electronic on-board recorders (EOBRs) on all commercial motor vehicles (CMV) to improve truck and bus drivers' compliance with the Federal hours of service (HOS) regulations. This requirement will help enforce the HOS regulations and reduce the risk of fatigue-related CMV accidents.
- Alcohol & Drug Clearinghouse: Establishes an electronic "clearinghouse" for records relating to alcohol and controlled substances testing of CMV operators. This clearinghouse would improve both CMV operators' and their employers' compliance with the FMCSA alcohol and controlled substances testing program and will provide employers information about a driver before making a hiring decision.

Streamlines Grant Programs

- Grant Consolidation: CMVSEA consolidates safety grant programs to better target funds to efficient ways to address safety problems.

Motorcoach Safety

- Bus Safety Efforts: CMVSEA has provisions that would require DOT to complete rulemakings to improve bus safety features on motorcoaches and to better enforce its regulations against unsafe motorcoach operators.

Household Goods Protection

- Protects Consumers: Updates and improves FMCSA's efforts to detect and penalize household goods movers that have a history of holding consumers' goods hostage and to better educate the public about available remedies if they are subject to a hostage goods situation.