

# MARYLAND'S CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAWS

(22.412.2)

A child younger than **four years** (regardless of his/her weight) or who weighs **forty pounds** or less (regardless of his/her age) must be secured in a federally-approved safety seat according to the safety seat and vehicle manufacturer's instructions.



A person may not transport a child younger than **16 years** of age unless the child is secured in: a child safety seat or a vehicle's seat belt in all seating positions in all vehicles.



(21.1121)

A child younger than **16 years** may not ride in an unenclosed cargo bed of a pick-up truck.

*Please remember that it is very important that all children be properly secured in child safety seats and seat belts.*

**Buckle up our children— follow our law!**

Questions? Call Maryland Kids in Safety Seats at 1-800-370-SEAT or Maryland State Highway Administration at (410) 787-5822.



Parris N. Glendening  
Governor



Maryland Department of Transportation  
State Highway Administration



# MARYLAND'S ADULT SEAT BELT LAW

(22.412.3)

Beginning October 1, 1997, Maryland will have a **PRIMARY SEAT BELT LAW**. This new law means that police officers will be able to ticket drivers and/or adult front seat passengers for not wearing a seat belt.

## Other Vital Facts About the Law.

### **Covers all motor vehicles:**

\*Registered in Maryland as a Class A (passenger), Class E (truck), Class F (truck tractor), Class M (multipurpose), or Class P (passenger bus) vehicle or the same types of vehicles registered in another state; and

\*Required to be equipped with seat belts under federal motor vehicle safety standards.



### **Who is covered by the law?**

The law covers the driver and the front seat passenger next to the door, each or both of whom may receive a ticket for not wearing a seat belt. For example:

\*In the case where **neither** the driver **nor** the front seat passenger are buckled up - each of them will receive a ticket for **\$25.00**.

\*In the case where **neither** the driver **nor** the front seat passenger (15 years of age or younger) are buckled up, the driver will receive a ticket for both. A **\$25.00 adult fine** for the drivers and a **\$48.00 fine** for the front seat passenger (15 years of age or younger). The \$48.00 fine is covered under the provisions of the child passenger safety law.

### **Not covered by the law are:**

\*Those who have a written certificate from their doctor stating a medical reason for not using their seat belt.

\*Drivers and passengers of Class L (historical) motor vehicles.

Children younger than 16 years of age, in all seating positions, in all vehicles, already are covered by Maryland's Child Passengers Safety Law. *(Please see reverse side for more information)*

