

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 86th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2007  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 227

5 By: Senator Wilkins  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF MOTORISTS ON  
10 HIGHWAYS AND ROADS IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS BY  
11 MAKING THE MANDATORY SEAT BELT LAW A PRIMARY LAW  
12 FOR ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13

## Subtitle

14 TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF MOTORISTS ON  
15 HIGHWAYS AND ROADS IN THE STATE OF  
16 ARKANSAS BY MAKING THE MANDATORY SEAT  
17 BELT LAW A PRIMARY LAW FOR ENFORCEMENT  
18 PURPOSES.  
19  
20  
21

22 WHEREAS, in 2005, five hundred forty-three (543) people died while  
23 riding in passenger vehicles in Arkansas and sixty-eight percent (68%) of  
24 those who died were not wearing a seat belt; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, in 2005, sixty-six (66) people died after being ejected from  
27 their vehicle during a rollover crash because they were not wearing their  
28 seat belts; and  
29

30 WHEREAS, by adopting a primary seat belt law, Arkansas can expect an  
31 increase in the use of seat belts by motorists by approximately twelve (12)  
32 percentage points; and  
33

34 WHEREAS, adopting a primary seat belt law could save as many as fifty  
35 (50) lives each year, prevent five-hundred thirty (530) serious injuries each  
36 year, and save an estimated one hundred four million dollars (\$104,000,000)



1 in economic costs each year; and

2  
3 WHEREAS, the adoption of the primary seat belt law will entitle the  
4 State of Arkansas to receive approximately nine million five hundred thousand  
5 dollars (\$9,500,000) in federal grant funds to implement highway safety  
6 programs,

7  
8 NOW THEREFORE,

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

10  
11 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 27-37-704 is repealed.

12 ~~27-37-704. Inspection for compliance.~~

13 ~~No motor vehicle, nor the operator of such vehicle, nor the passengers~~  
14 ~~of such vehicle shall be stopped, inspected, or detained solely to determine~~  
15 ~~compliance with this subchapter.~~

16  
17 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-37-707 is amended to read as follows:

18 27-37-707. Traffic violation report and driver's license suspension.

19 The Office of Driver Services of the Revenue Division of the Department  
20 of Finance and Administration shall not:

21 (1) ~~include~~ Include in the traffic violation report of any  
22 person any conviction arising out of a violation of this subchapter;

23 (2) Use or accumulate a violation of this subchapter to suspend  
24 or revoke the driver's license of any person as a habitual violator of  
25 traffic laws; or

26 (3) Use a violation of this subchapter in any other way under  
27 the administrative authority of the office to suspend or revoke a driver's  
28 license.

29  
30 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 27-16-804(h), regarding restricted  
31 licenses, learner's licenses, and intermediate licenses is repealed.

32 (h) ~~No motor vehicle, nor the operator of a vehicle, nor the~~  
33 ~~passengers of the vehicle shall be stopped, inspected, or detained solely to~~  
34 ~~determine compliance with the requirement set out in this subchapter for~~  
35 ~~wearing a seat belt.~~