

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4121

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a motor vehicle recall assistance program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 1, 2020

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL)) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a motor vehicle recall assistance program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Promoting Auto Re-
5 calls Toward Safety Act of 2020” or the “PARTS Act
6 of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. MOTOR VEHICLE RECALL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 301 of
3 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
4 end the following:

5 **“§ 30129. Motor vehicle recall assistance program**

6 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 “(1) OPEN RECALL.—The term ‘open recall’
8 means a motor vehicle recall—

9 “(A) for which a notification by a manu-
10 facturer has been provided under section
11 30119; and

12 “(B) that has not been remedied under
13 section 30120.

14 “(2) REGISTRATION.—The term ‘registration’
15 means the process for registering a motor vehicle in
16 a State (including registration renewal).

17 “(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
18 the Secretary of Transportation.

19 “(b) PROGRAM.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years
21 after the date of enactment of this section, the Sec-
22 retary shall establish a program under which the
23 Secretary shall provide grants and other assistance,
24 including technical assistance, to States in informing
25 owners and lessees of a motor vehicle about open re-

1 calls on the motor vehicle at the time of registration
2 of the motor vehicle in the State.

3 “(2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive as-
4 sistance under this subsection, a State shall—

5 “(A) submit to the Secretary an applica-
6 tion at such time, in such manner, and con-
7 taining such information as the Secretary may
8 require; and

9 “(B) agree—

10 “(i) to notify each owner or lessee of
11 a motor vehicle presented for registration
12 in the State of any open recall on that
13 motor vehicle; and

14 “(ii) to provide to each owner or les-
15 see of the motor vehicle presented for reg-
16 istration—

17 “(I) the open recall information
18 for the motor vehicle at no cost; and

19 “(II) such other information as
20 the Secretary may require.

21 “(3) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—In select-
22 ing recipients for assistance under this subsection,
23 the Secretary shall take into consideration the meth-
24 odology of a State for—

1 “(A) identifying open recalls on a motor
2 vehicle;

3 “(B) informing the owner or lessee of a
4 motor vehicle of an open recall; and

5 “(C) measuring performance in—

6 “(i) informing owners and lessees
7 about open recalls; and

8 “(ii) remedying open recalls.

9 “(4) GRANTS.—

10 “(A) LIMITATION.—A State may receive
11 not more than 1 grant under this subsection.

12 “(B) PERFORMANCE PERIOD.—A grant
13 provided under this subsection shall require a
14 performance period of 2 years.

15 “(5) REPORT TO THE SECRETARY.—Not later
16 than 90 days after the date of completion of the per-
17 formance period under paragraph (4)(B), each State
18 that receives a grant under this subsection shall sub-
19 mit to the Secretary a performance report that con-
20 tains such information as the Secretary considers to
21 be necessary—

22 “(A) to evaluate the extent to which open
23 recalls have been remedied in the State; and

24 “(B) to enable a comparison of—

1 “(i) recall completion under this sub-
 2 section; and

3 “(ii) existing recall completion data.

4 “(6) EVALUATION AND REPORT TO CON-
 5 GRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date on
 6 which the Secretary receives from a State a perform-
 7 ance report under paragraph (5), the Secretary
 8 shall—

9 “(A) evaluate the extent to which open re-
 10 calls have been remedied in the State; and

11 “(B) submit to the Committee on Com-
 12 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
 13 ate and the Committee on Transportation and
 14 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
 15 and make publicly available a report describing
 16 the results of the evaluation under subpara-
 17 graph (A).”.

18 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for sub-
 19 chapter II of chapter 301 of title 49, United States Code,
 20 is amended by striking the item relating to section 30128
 21 and inserting the following:

“30128. Vehicle rollover prevention and crash mitigation.
 “30129. Motor vehicle recall assistance program.”.

1 **SEC. 3. RECALL COMPLETION REPORTS AND SCORECARD.**

2 (a) REPORTS ON NOTIFICATION CAMPAIGNS.—Sec-
3 tion 30118 of title 49, United States Code, is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 “(f) REPORTS ON NOTIFICATION CAMPAIGNS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each manufacturer that is
7 conducting a campaign under subsection (b) or (c),
8 or any other law (including regulations), to notify
9 manufacturers, distributors, owners, purchasers, or
10 dealers of a defect or noncompliance shall submit to
11 the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic
12 Safety Administration—

13 “(A) by the applicable date described in
14 section 573.7(d) of title 49, Code of Federal
15 Regulations (or a successor regulation), a quar-
16 terly report on the campaign for each of 8 con-
17 secutive quarters, beginning with the quarter in
18 which the campaign was initiated; and

19 “(B) an annual report for each of the 3
20 years following completion of the last quarter
21 for which a quarterly report is submitted under
22 subparagraph (A).

23 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Except as otherwise
24 provided in this subsection, each report under this
25 subsection shall comply with the requirements of

1 section 573.7 of title 49, Code of Federal Regula-
 2 tions (or a successor regulation).”.

3 (b) SCORECARD AND NOTIFICATION TO OWNERS AND
 4 LESSEES OF UNREMEDIED VEHICLES.—Section 30120 of
 5 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
 6 end the following:

7 “(k) RECALL REMEDY SCORECARD.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the
 9 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
 10 shall publish an annual scorecard of recall comple-
 11 tion rates for each manufacturer submitting a report
 12 under section 30118(f) during the year covered by
 13 the scorecard.

14 “(2) REQUIREMENT.—The annual scorecard
 15 under paragraph (1) shall include—

16 “(A) for each manufacturer submitting a
 17 report under section 30118(f) during the year
 18 covered by the scorecard—

19 “(i) the total number of—

20 “(I) recalls issued by the manu-
 21 facturer during the year covered by
 22 the scorecard; and

23 “(II) vehicles of the manufac-
 24 turer subject to a recall during the
 25 year covered by the scorecard; and

1 “(ii) the percentage of vehicles of the
2 manufacturer that—

3 “(I) were subject to a recall at
4 any time during the year covered by
5 the scorecard; and

6 “(II) have been remedied under
7 this section; and

8 “(B) for each campaign that is the subject
9 of a report submitted under section 30118(f)
10 during the year covered by the scorecard—

11 “(i) the total number of recalls issued
12 by the manufacturer pursuant to the cam-
13 paign—

14 “(I) during the year covered by
15 the scorecard; and

16 “(II) since the date on which the
17 campaign was initiated;

18 “(ii) the total number of vehicles of
19 the manufacturer subject to the cam-
20 paign—

21 “(I) during the year covered by
22 the scorecard; and

23 “(II) since the date on which the
24 campaign was initiated; and

1 “(iii) the percentage of vehicles sub-
2 ject to the campaign that have been rem-
3 edied under this section—

4 “(I) during the year covered by
5 the scorecard; and

6 “(II) since the date on which the
7 campaign was initiated.”.

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