

“(i) REGULATION.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations on the requirements of this section, consistent with this section.”.

49 USC 30172
note.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) ORIGINAL INFORMATION.—Information submitted to the Secretary of Transportation by a whistleblower in accordance with the requirements of section 30172 of title 49, United States Code, shall not lose its status as original information solely because the whistleblower submitted the information prior to the effective date of the regulations issued under subsection (i) of that section if that information was submitted after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) AWARDS.—A whistleblower may receive an award under section 30172 of title 49, United States Code, regardless of whether the violation underlying the covered action occurred prior to the date of enactment of this Act, and may receive an award prior to the Secretary of Transportation promulgating the regulations under subsection (i) of that section.

49 USC
prec. 30101.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents of subchapter IV of chapter 301 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“30172. Whistleblower incentives and protections.”.

Subtitle D—Additional Motor Vehicle Provisions

49 USC 105 note.

SEC. 24401. REQUIRED REPORTING OF NHTSA AGENDA.

Not later than December 1 of the year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, and each year thereafter, the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall publish on the public website of the Administration, and file with the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate an annual plan for the following calendar year detailing the Administration’s projected activities, including—

- (1) the Administrator’s policy priorities;
- (2) any rulemakings projected to be commenced;
- (3) any plans to develop guidelines;
- (4) any plans to restructure the Administration or to establish or alter working groups;
- (5) any planned projects or initiatives of the Administration, including the working groups and advisory committees of the Administration; and
- (6) any projected dates or timetables associated with any of the items described in paragraphs (1) through (5).

SEC. 24402. APPLICATION OF REMEDIES FOR DEFECTS AND NON-COMPLIANCE.

Section 30120(g)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking “10 calendar years” and inserting “15 calendar years”.

49 USC 30117
note.

SEC. 24403. RETENTION OF SAFETY RECORDS BY MANUFACTURERS.

(a) RULE.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue a

final rule pursuant to section 30117 of title 49, United States Code, requiring each manufacturer of motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment to retain all motor vehicle safety records required to be maintained by manufacturers under section 576.6 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, for a period of not less than 10 calendar years from the date on which they were generated or acquired by the manufacturer.

(b) APPLICATION.—The rule required by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to any record described in such subsection that is in the possession of a manufacturer on the effective date of such rule.

SEC. 24404. NONAPPLICATION OF PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO NON-COMPLYING MOTOR VEHICLES TO VEHICLES USED FOR TESTING OR EVALUATION.

Section 30112(b) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (8), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(10) the introduction of a motor vehicle in interstate commerce solely for purposes of testing or evaluation by a manufacturer that agrees not to sell or offer for sale the motor vehicle at the conclusion of the testing or evaluation and that prior to the date of enactment of this paragraph—

“(A) has manufactured and distributed motor vehicles into the United States that are certified to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards;

“(B) has submitted to the Secretary appropriate manufacturer identification information under part 566 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations; and

“(C) if applicable, has identified an agent for service of process in accordance with part 551 of such title.”.

SEC. 24405. TREATMENT OF LOW-VOLUME MANUFACTURERS.

(a) EXEMPTION FROM VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS FOR LOW-VOLUME MANUFACTURERS.—Section 30114 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “The” and inserting “(A) VEHICLES USED FOR PARTICULAR PURPOSES. The”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) EXEMPTION FOR LOW-VOLUME MANUFACTURERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

“(A) exempt from section 30112(a) of this title not more than 325 replica motor vehicles per year that are manufactured or imported by a low-volume manufacturer; and

“(B) except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, limit any such exemption to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards applicable to motor vehicles and not motor vehicle equipment.

“(2) REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT.—To qualify for an exemption under paragraph (1), a low-volume manufacturer shall register with the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and under such terms that the Secretary determines appropriate. The Secretary shall establish terms that ensure that no person may register as a low-volume manufacturer if the