

**CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY:  
SAFETY FOR CHILDREN  
2007-2008**

**SB 1613 (Simitian) Prohibited Use of Hand-Held Wireless Telephone: Vehicles**

**STATUS: Signed into Law. Due to take effect July 1, 2008.**

**Summary:** Prohibits the use of wireless telephones while driving, unless the telephone is designed and configured to allow hands-free listening and talking operation, and is used in that manner while driving. Base fine for a first offense: \$20, and \$50 for each subsequent offense. The law provides an exemption for emergency purposes.

*For more information please visit the California Department of Motor Vehicles at:  
<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/vctop/d11/vc23123.htm>*

**SB 33 (Simitian) Teen Prohibited Use of Hand-Held Wireless Telephone: Vehicles**

**STATUS: Signed into law.**

**Summary:** SB 33, on and after July 1, 2008, prohibits a person possessing a valid instruction permit, student license, or provisional license from driving a motor vehicle while using a wireless telephone. This is a follow-on law to last year's successful legislation (also authored by Senator Simitian) to prevent driving while using a hand-held cell phone.

*For more information please visit the California Department of Motor Vehicles at:  
<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/vctop/d11/vc23124.htm>*

**AB 1108 (Ma) Ban on toxic products Children's products: Phthalates**

**STATUS: Signed into law.**

**Summary:** Existing law prohibits the manufacture, processing, and distribution in commerce of products containing certain chemicals found to raise health risks, including, but not limited to, polybrominated diphenyl ether. This new law, commencing January 1, 2009, prohibits the manufacture, sale, or distribution in commerce of certain toys and child care articles, as defined, if those products contain types of phthalates in concentrations exceeding 1/10 of 1 percent. This law also requires manufacturers to use the least toxic alternative when replacing phthalates in their products and prohibit manufacturers from replacing phthalates with certain carcinogens and reproductive toxicants.

*For more information please visit:  
<http://www.legisweb.net/calmodel/Retrieve.asp?ref=urn%3Acalm%3A2007%3Aab1108%3Adoc>.*

**AB 57 (Soto) Safe Routes to School (SRTS)**

**STATUS: Signed into law.**

**Summary:** AB 57 eliminates the sunset date for the Caltrans "Safe Routes to School" construction program and makes statutory changes in the Streets and Highways Code to conform to federal law. The new law states that federal safety funds will continue to be allocated in equal amounts to: state highways, local roads, and the SRTS construction program. Funds for the SRTS program are distributed through a statewide competition and are used for the construction of bicycle and pedestrian safety and traffic calming projects such as sidewalks, trails, bike lanes, and intersection improvements. California has been operating under the "one-third" distribution formula for federal safety funds since the year 2000 after the first statewide Safe Routes to School bill was approved in 1999 (AB 1475). Subsequent SRTS bills in 2002 (SB 10) and in 2004 (SB 1087) extended the program until January 1, 2008.

*For more information please visit the California Bicycle Coalition at: [www.calbike.org/legislation.htm](http://www.calbike.org/legislation.htm)*

## 2007-2008 SAFETY FOR CHILDREN SUMMARY CONTINUED

### **AB 478 (Wolk) Night Illumination**

**STATUS:** Signed into law.

**Summary:** AB 478 mandates that anyone riding a bicycle on a highway or shared use pathway during the hours of darkness, except on private property, must be equipped with a white light visible from a distance of 300 feet. Previous law only required a light if the bicycle is being operated on a highway.

*For more information please visit the California Bicycle Coalition at: [www.calbike.org/legislation.htm](http://www.calbike.org/legislation.htm)*

### **AB 1581 (Fuller) Traffic-actuated signals: Bicycles: Motorcycles**

**STATUS:** Signed into law.

**Summary:** This law includes as an official traffic control device a traffic-actuated signal that displays one or more of its indications in response to the presence of traffic detected by mechanical, visual, electrical, or other means. Upon the first placement or replacement of a traffic-actuated signal, the signal would have to be installed and maintained, to the extent feasible and in conformance with professional engineering practices, so as to detect lawful bicycle or motorcycle traffic on the roadway.

*For more information please visit the California Bicycle Coalition at: [www.calbike.org/legislation.htm](http://www.calbike.org/legislation.htm)*

### **CA AB 23 (Ma) Traffic Enforcement System: San Francisco**

**STATUS:** In Senate.

**Summary:** Authorizes the City and County of San Francisco to utilize an automated traffic enforcement system to enforce a violation of existing traffic law that requires compliance with the directions of an official traffic control device.

*For more information please visit California Coalition for Children's Safety and Health at: <http://www.sacadvocacy.com/ccsh/ccsh.html>*

### **CA AB 706 (Leno) Fire Retardants: Toxic Effects**

**STATUS:** Turned into a two-year bill.

**Summary:** Revises and extends findings relating to fire retardants, and requires all seating, bedding, and furniture products to comply with certain requirements, including the requirement that they not contain brominated fire retardants or chlorinated fire retardants and be appropriately labeled. Requires the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to review human, animal or environmental health risk assessments of a component or chemical used to meet fire retardancy standards and to report thereon.

*For more information please visit California Coalition for Children's Safety and Health at: <http://www.sacadvocacy.com/ccsh/ccsh.html>*

**FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY:  
SAFETY FOR CHILDREN  
2007-2008**

**HR 1721 (Debbie Wasserman Schultz) Pool and Spa Safety Act**

**STATUS: Signed into Law**

**Summary:** Prohibits the manufacture, sale or distribution of drain covers that do not meet anti-entrapment safety standards established by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Creates an incentive grant program for states to adopt comprehensive pool and spa safety laws requiring certain safety devices in swimming pools and spas to protect children. Establishes a national drowning prevention education program within the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Requires public pools to incorporate anti-entrapment drain covers and other layers of protection

*For more detailed information please visit Safe Kids Worldwide at  
<http://sk.convio.net/site/PageNavigator/Campaigns/PoolSpaSafetyAct%20/CampaignPoolHome>*