H-3858.1 _____

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2255
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State of Washington   **63rd Legislature**   **2014 Regular Session**

By House Transportation (originally sponsored by Representative Van De Wege)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/14.

1   AN ACT Relating to ambulance seat belt notification, air bags, and
2   driver training; adding a new section to chapter 46.37 RCW; and
3   providing an effective date.

4   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.37 RCW
6   to read as follows:
7   (1) Ambulance seat belt notification must include a lighted message
8   alarm and may include chime alarms that meet federal regulations
9   regarding chime alarm intervals to notify the driver that a passenger
10   has not fastened his or her seat belt in the cab of the ambulance.
11   Seat belt alarms are prohibited from activating until the ambulance
12   unit is put in drive gear. Any ambulance manufactured after the
13   effective date of this section must comply with this subsection, and
14   current warning systems may be modified to the specifications within
15   this subsection on any ambulance manufactured before the effective date
16   of this section.
17   (2) Any ambulance manufactured after the effective date of this
18   section must have air bags that meet federal regulations in the cab of
19   the ambulance and must not be modified, blocked, or turned off.

1   (3) The Washington state patrol, in partnership with the Washington
2   fire chiefs, must study the need and feasibility of regional accident
3   prevention programs for ambulance and medic unit operators, including
4   the use of driver simulators. The study must take into consideration,
5   among other issues, the availability of driver simulators, as well as
6   any administrative and funding requirements needed to implement such a
7   program. The results of the study must be reported to the legislature
8   by December 1, 2014.

9   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect July 1, 2014.

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