



## **Representative Lindsey Holmes**

### **Sectional Analysis**

#### **CS HB 131 - Child Safety Seats and Seat Belts**

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**Section 1:** Amends AS 28.05.095(b) to meet the requirements of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for child safety restraints. Current broad, vague language regarding child safety devices is replaced with the specific NHTSA requirements.

Subsection (1) mandates children less than 1 year of age must be placed in a rear-facing child safety seat.

Subsection (2) mandates children less than 20 lbs. be placed in a rear-facing child safety seat.

Subsection (3) mandates children 20 lbs. and over may be placed in a rear-facing child safety seat, as long as the manufacturer's use requirements are met. If not placed in a rear-facing child safety seat, children 20 lbs. and over, up to 40 lbs. must be placed in a front-facing child safety seat.

Subsection (4) mandates children 40 lbs. or more but less than 57 inches (4'9") should be placed in a booster seat.

Subsection (5) mandates that children over 57 inches be properly placed in a safety belt.

Subsection (6) exempts children age 8 and up, even if they are not over 57 inches in height, from the child safety seat and restraint requirements. However, if not properly secured in a child safety seat or booster seat, this group must be secured in a safety belt.

**Section 2:** Amends AS 25.05.095 by adding subsection (g) to require all child safety seats and restraint systems be used in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements.