



COLORADO

State Patrol

Department of Public Safety

Senate Bill 26-026- Weight for Vehicles with Child Restraint System

C.R.S. 42-4-236 - Child Restraint Systems Required. In the current definition, it states that “Motor vehicle” means a passenger car, a pickup truck; or a van, minivan, or sport utility vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of less than ten thousand pounds.

Meaning that a motor vehicle that has a GVWR of more than ten thousand pounds is exempt from child restraint regulations outlined in C.R.S 42-4-236.

Several vehicles on our roadways have a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 10,000lbs. These can include medium-duty trucks, such as a Ford Super Duty F-350 crew cab with a GVWR of up to 13,000lbs, a Ram 3500 crew cab that has a GVWR of up to 14,000lbs, a Chevrolet Silverado 3500, a GMC Sierra 3500, or a Hummer EV Pickup that can all have a GVWR of over 10,000lbs. All of which can and are used for personal use.

The bill simply replaces the gross vehicle weight of less than 10,000lbs with a gross vehicle weight rating of less than 16,000lbs, thereby expanding the definition to include all vehicles used for personal use.



Bottom Line

If the issue is left unresolved, there is a loophole that can be exploited in current statute for those who operate a larger vehicle to not have to comply with child restraint laws and technically would be legal to operate their motor vehicle without properly restraining children.