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## Kansas Official Wants Seatbelt Fine Tougher

Kansas Transportation Secretary Deb Miller wants the fine for violating the state's new seat belt law to be increased.

The current fine of \$5 is due to double next July. Miller said Tuesday that for the law to be as effective as possible, the fine must be higher. But she did not specify how high she thought the fine should be.

Miller and Gov. Mark Parkinson celebrated the tougher seat belt law during a Topeka news conference. The law took effect May 27 and attracted an additional \$11.2 million in federal transportation funds.

The law requires all passengers to wear seat belts, ending an exemption for adults in the back seat.

Also, law enforcement officers can stop motorists just for violating the seat belt law. Previously, officers had to have another reason for a stop, such as speeding.

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