

Introduced by: Council Member Drake
Date: August 22, 2003
Public Hearing: August 26, 2003
Action: Failed
Vote: 3-3

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

ORDINANCE #03-11

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING BETHEL MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 5.20.170 TO RESTRICT CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE YEARS OLD FROM RIDING IN A REGULATED VEHICLE FRONT SEAT THAT HAS A PASSENGER AIR BAG

WHEREAS, Vehicle safety courses have identified front seat passenger air bags as potentially dangerous to small children when they are deployed, particularly those under twelve years of age, causing series injuries and even death; and

WHEREAS, Regulated vehicles in the City of Bethel are beginning to include newer model vehicles that are equipped with passenger air bags in the front seat; and

WHEREAS, The Bethel Municipal Code addresses safety issues regarding regulated vehicles to protect passengers.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Bethel, Alaska, that:

SECTION 1. Classification. This ordinance is permanent in nature and shall be incorporated into the Bethel Municipal Code ("Code").

SECTION 2. Content. The title to Section 5.20.170 of the Code is hereby amended as well as adding an additional provision, to read as follows (new language is underlined and deleted language is stricken out):

5.20.170 Safety belts, child safety restraints, and vehicle air bags.
~~Compliance with AS 28.05.095 required.~~

Every regulated vehicle shall comply with the provisions of Alaska Statute 28.05.095 regarding safety belts and child safety restraints. Additionally, no operator of a regulated vehicle shall allow a child under twelve years of age to ride in the front seat of the vehicle if it has a passenger air bag.

SECTION 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval by the City Council.

Adopted this ____ day of _____ 2003 by a vote of ____ in favor and ____ opposed.

Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Amanda Roudebush, City Clerk