

# CONGRESS.GOV

## S.665 - Stop Underrides Act

116th Congress (2019-2020)

**Sponsor:** [Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. \[D-NY\]](#) (Introduced 03/05/2019)

**Committees:** Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

**Latest Action:** Senate - 03/05/2019 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. ([All Actions](#))

**Tracker:** **Introduced**

Summary(1) **Text(1)** Actions(1) Titles(2) Amendments(0) Cosponsors(13) Committees(1) Related Bills(1)

There is one version of the bill.

**Text available as:** [XML/HTML](#) | [XML/HTML \(new window\)](#) | [TXT](#) | [PDF](#) (PDF provides a complete and accurate display of this text.) <sup>?</sup>

**Shown Here:**

**Introduced in Senate (03/05/2019)**

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 665

To reduce the number of preventable deaths and injuries caused by underride crashes, to improve motor carrier and passenger motor vehicle safety, and for other purposes.

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 5, 2019

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PETERS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. UDALL, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

# A BILL

To reduce the number of preventable deaths and injuries caused by underride crashes, to improve motor carrier and passenger motor vehicle safety, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Stop Underrides Act”.

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

“(i) is missing; or

“(ii) has—

“(I) any metal perforated by rust or corrosion that compromises structural integrity;

“(II) a cracked weld;

“(III) a cracked or fractured vertical member;

“(IV) a cut or tear in any underride guard component; or

“(V) a missing fastener or a loose fastener; or

“(C) for which the dimensional integrity of the guard or protection is compromised.”.

## **SEC. 5. RESEARCH AND PERIODIC REVIEW OF UNDERRIDE GUARD STANDARDS.**

(a) **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.**—As soon as practicable, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue a Request for Proposals for the design of 2 high-capacity rear underride barrier prototypes of a generic guard (with energy absorption and without energy absorption) to prevent underride crashes and protect motor vehicle passengers against severe injury at crash speeds of up to 65 miles per hour.

(b) **EVALUATION.**—The Secretary shall—

(1) evaluate the proposals received in response to the Request for Proposals issued pursuant to subsection (a); and

(2) update the underride guard standards under section 30129 of title 49, United States Code (as added by section 4(a)), as appropriate, to provide the best underride protection that is technologically feasible.

(c) **PERIODIC REVIEWS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 5 years after the underride guard standards are updated pursuant to subsection (b)(2), and every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary shall—

(A) conduct a review of underride guard standards to evaluate the need for changes in response to advancements in technology; and

(B) update the standards accordingly.

(2) **REPORT.**—After each review conducted under this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the results of the review.

## **SEC. 6. COMMITTEE ON UNDERRIDE PROTECTION.**

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Transportation shall establish the Committee on Underride Protection (referred to in this section as the “Committee”) to oversee the ongoing underride rulemaking process.

(b) **REPRESENTATION.**—The Committee shall be composed of—

(1) 1 representative of truck manufacturers;

(2) 1 representative of trailer manufacturers;

(3) 1 roadside inspector;

(4) 1 motor vehicle engineer, who shall be a technician who works on motor vehicle safety improvements;

(5) 1 motor vehicle crash reconstructionist;

(6) 2 representatives of consumer-oriented traffic safety organizations;

(7) 1 representative of the truck and auto insurance industry;

(8) 1 law enforcement crash investigator;

(9) 1 emergency medical service provider;

(10) 1 public health or injury prevention professional; and

(11) at least 4 people whose families have been impacted by an underride crash.

(c) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet—

(1) until the final rules have been issued pursuant to section 30129 of title 49, United States Code (as added by section 4(a))—

(A) monthly, via conference call; and

(B) quarterly, in person, at the Department of Transportation headquarters; and

(2) subsequent to the issuance of the final rules described in paragraph (1), annually, at the Department of Transportation headquarters, to assess the status of underride crash protection.

(d) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Committee shall submit an annual report to the appropriate congressional committees that describes the progress made by the Secretary of Transportation in meeting the rulemaking deadlines set forth in section 30129 of title 49, United States Code (as added by section 4(a)).

## **SEC. 7. PUBLICATION OF VICTIMS OF TRUCK UNDERRIDE CRASHES.**

The Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) publish data on victims of truck underride crashes on a publicly accessible website; and

(2) update the data described in paragraph (1) not less frequently than quarterly.