Definition — A child restraint system is any device that meets the standards of the U.S. Department of Transportation, which is designed to restrain, seat or position children, including booster seats.

- Children under age 8 must be properly secured in an appropriate child restraint system. Parents and legal guardians must provide a child restraint system to any person who transports their children.
- Any person transporting a child age 8-15 must properly secure the child in a safety belt.
- A child that weighs more than 40 pounds may be transported in the back seat of a motor vehicle wearing only a lap belt if the back seat is not equipped with a combination lap/shoulder belt.
- Drivers 16 and 17 transporting a child age 8-17 must properly secure the child in a safety belt or an appropriate child restraint system.
We all want to keep our children, ourselves and other passengers in our cars safe. We also want to be assured that other people transporting our children are aware of how to properly use child safety seats and where to place children in a vehicle.

While safety belts should be worn by adults and older children, lap and shoulder belts do not adequately protect infants and small children. They need the special protection of an approved child safety seat or booster seat.

Air bags are designed to be supplemental protection devices in combination with lap and shoulder belts. Still, special precautions must be taken when driving with children in air bag-equipped vehicles.

Please share this information with your family and friends.

Remember, please protect your precious cargo, and buckle up — your children are watching you.

Jesse White
Secretary of State