FINLAND

Act on the Use of Alcohol Interlock in School and Day-care Transportation (1110/2010)

The act in Finnish: www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/alkup/2010/20101110

The act in Swedish: www.finlex.fi/sv/laki/alkup/2010/20101110

NB! The English text is an unofficial translation. The Finnish and Swedish versions are the only authentic ones.

In compliance with a decision of the Finnish Parliament, the following is hereby regulated:

Section 1

The use of a vehicle equipped with an alcohol interlock in school and day-care transportation

If the transportation is organised by a municipality, municipal federation, school or institute as charter transport and support from a municipality or state is obtained, a vehicle equipped with an alcohol interlock referred to in section 1 of the Act on the Approval of an Alcohol Interlock for Road Use (1109/2010), must be used for:

1) the transportation of pupils participating in preschool, primary school or voluntary additional basic education;

2) the transportation of pupils participating in upper secondary education; and

3) day-care transportation.

Separate provisions shall be issued for the controlled right to drive meant for those guilty of drink-driving.

Section 2

Installation of an alcohol interlock and its appropriate use

The carrier responsible for transportation shall be responsible for the installation of an alcohol interlock and for ensuring its continued functionality. In order to ensure the road safety of the vehicle and the functionality of the alcohol interlock, care must be taken when using, servicing and calibrating the alcohol interlock, and appropriate procedures must be followed.

The certificate of installation and calibration of an alcohol interlock set out in section 7, subsection 2 of the Act on the Approval of an Alcohol Interlock for Road Use must be kept in the vehicle when driving.

More specific provisions on the installation and adjustment of an alcohol interlock may be given by way of a ministrial decree from the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

Section 3

The use of a vehicle not equipped with an alcohol interlock

Due to a vehicle breakdown or other equivalent reason, the carrier responsible for transportation may temporarily, up to five weekdays, use a vehicle not equipped with an alcohol interlock. The carrier must without delay inform the party who ordered the transportation of the use of a vehicle not equipped with an alcohol interlock.

If, despite what is set out in subsection 1, the carrier is unable to perform the required transportation, the party who ordered the transportation may temporarily, up to five weekdays, use a vehicle not equipped with an alcohol interlock. This is allowed only if a suitable vehicle equipped with an alcohol interlock is unavailable.

Section 4

Violation of alcohol interlock use

Whoever wilfully or through negligence

1) fails to equip a vehicle used for driving set out in section 1, subsection 1 with an alcohol interlock or to ensure its continued functionality,

2) violates the time-limit laid down by section 3, subsection 1 or fails to give notification as would be the responsibility of a carrier according to the above mentioned subsection, or

3) fails to keep a certificate of installation and calibration of an alcohol interlock set out in section 2, subsection 2 in the vehicle when driving as laid down by section 1, subsection 1,

must be fined for an *alcohol interlock usage violation*, unless a more severe punishment is provided for the act in other legislation.

The police must inform the party who ordered the transportation of a suspected violation of alcohol interlock use laid down by subsection 1, paragraph 1 or 2.

Section 5

Entry into force

This act enters into force on 1 August 2011.