



**AN ACT CONCERNING DIESEL FUELED SCHOOL BUSES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-275 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

3 (a) The term "school bus" means any motor bus painted,  
4 constructed, equipped and registered as hereinafter provided, which is  
5 regularly used for transporting school children to and from school or  
6 school activities whether or not for compensation or under contract to  
7 provide such service. No vehicle shall be registered as a school bus  
8 unless it complies with all requirements of sections 14-275 to 14-281,  
9 inclusive, as to color, markings, equipment and inspection, and each  
10 such vehicle shall be inspected prior to such registration in accordance  
11 with regulations prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.  
12 The commissioner or the commissioner's designee may also conduct  
13 random, unannounced inspections of any registered school bus. The  
14 provisions of said sections requiring other vehicles to stop at the signal  
15 of the operator of a registered school bus shall not apply to a signal by  
16 the operator of any vehicle not registered as a school bus and not  
17 complying with all requirements for such registration.

18 (b) Each school bus shall be painted a uniform yellow color known  
19 as "National School Bus Glossy Yellow", except for the fenders and  
20 trim which may be painted black and the roof which may be painted

21 white, and shall have conspicuously painted on the rear and on the  
22 front thereof, in black lettering of a size to be determined by the  
23 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, the words "School Bus-Stop on  
24 Signal", except that each school bus equipped with an eight-light  
25 warning system shall have the words "School Bus" painted on the rear  
26 and on the front thereof in such lettering. The sides of such vehicles  
27 may be inscribed with the words "School Bus", the school name or such  
28 other legend or device as may be necessary for purposes of  
29 identification or safety.

30 (c) Each school bus shall be equipped with special automatic,  
31 electrically-operated flashing stop signals, which shall be independent  
32 and separate from the braking, stop and tail lights of standard  
33 equipment. Such flashing lights may include automatic traffic  
34 signalling devices showing red and amber lights and shall be so  
35 located that adequate warning will be afforded to both oncoming and  
36 overtaking traffic, except that each school bus manufactured on and  
37 after October 1, 1984, and registered for use in this state shall be  
38 equipped with an eight-light warning system, showing two red  
39 flashing stop signals and two amber flashing warning signals on the  
40 front and rear of the bus, and a stop semaphore. The commissioner  
41 may adopt standards for an eight-light warning system and standards  
42 and specifications for the construction of school buses and for  
43 equipment to be maintained on school buses consistent with the  
44 provisions of sections 14-275 to 14-281, inclusive. Both public and  
45 private owners of school buses shall maintain a record of such kinds of  
46 repairs made to such buses as the commissioner may require and such  
47 work record shall be available at all times to the commissioner and the  
48 commissioner's designated assistants. All such maintenance records  
49 shall be retained for a period of two years. Each school bus shall be  
50 equipped with emergency lighting equipment as provided by section  
51 14-97a, with a defrosting device as provided by section 14-97, with a  
52 system of mirrors as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations Title  
53 49, Section 571.111, as amended, or with an outside mirror as provided  
54 by section 14-99 and a system of crossover mirrors designed and

55 mounted so as to give the driver a view of the road from the front  
56 bumper forward to a point where direct observation is possible and  
57 along the left and right sides of the bus, with a signalling device as  
58 provided by section 14-101, and with chain nonskid devices for  
59 immediate use on at least one outside or inside rear tire on each side or  
60 tires designed to prevent skidding on all rear wheels when weather  
61 and highway conditions require such use. Commencing February 1,  
62 1974, each new school bus with a vehicle air brake system shall be so  
63 equipped that the brake system is operated from a separate air  
64 reservoir tank other than the air reservoir tank used to operate any  
65 other compressed air or vacuum operated devices with which the  
66 school bus may be equipped. The seating requirements of section 14-  
67 273 shall be observed. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 14-98,  
68 school buses may be equipped with tires incorporating a metal  
69 nonskid device during the period from October fifteenth to April  
70 thirtieth, inclusive.

71 (d) Not later than July 1, 2006, each diesel fuel powered school bus  
72 shall utilize diesel fuel with a sulfur content of no more than fifteen  
73 parts per million. On and after July 1, 2006, each new diesel school bus  
74 registered for use in this state shall incorporate green diesel technology  
75 and be equipped with a catalyzed diesel particulate filter.

76 [(d)] (e) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall,  
77 for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction, and for  
78 each subsequent offense shall be fined not less than one hundred  
79 dollars nor more than five hundred dollars.

80 Sec. 2. Section 12-412 of the general statutes is amended by adding  
81 subdivision (114) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

82 (NEW) (114) On and after July 1, 2003, and prior to July 1, 2006, the  
83 sale of any new school bus equipped with a catalyzed diesel  
84 particulate filter.

This act shall take effect as follows:

