



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 291

LCO No. 1901

01901_____ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT REDUCING DIESEL EMISSIONS INSIDE 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 Section 14-275 of the general statutes is repealed and the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, 2006*):

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.

50 (d) Each school bus shall be equipped with emergency lighting
51 equipment as provided by section 14-97a, with a defrosting device as
52 provided by section 14-97, with a system of mirrors as provided in the
53 Code of Federal Regulations Title 49, Section 571.111, as amended, or
54 with an outside mirror as provided by section 14-99 and a system of
55 crossover mirrors designed and mounted so as to give the driver a
56 view of the road from the front bumper forward to a point where
57 direct observation is possible and along the left and right sides of the
58 bus, with a signalling device as provided by section 14-101, and with
59 chain nonskid devices for immediate use on at least one outside or
60 inside rear tire on each side or tires designed to prevent skidding on all
61 rear wheels when weather and highway conditions require such use.

62 (e) [Commencing February 1, 1974, each] Each new school bus with
63 a vehicle air brake system shall be so equipped that the brake system is
64 operated from a separate air reservoir tank other than the air reservoir
65 tank used to operate any other compressed air or vacuum operated
66 devices with which the school bus may be equipped.

67 (f) The seating requirements of section 14-273 shall be observed.

68 (g) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 14-98, school buses
69 may be equipped with tires incorporating a metal nonskid device
70 during the period from October fifteenth to April thirtieth, inclusive.

71 (h) On and after September 1, 2008, each type I diesel powered
72 school bus shall be equipped with a closed crank-case ventilation
73 system designed to substantially reduce or eliminate diesel fine
74 particulate matter emissions from entering the school bus cabin.

75 [(d)] (i) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall,
76 for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction, and for
77 each subsequent offense shall be fined not less than one hundred

78 dollars nor more than five hundred dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2006	14-275

Statement of Purpose:

To reduce or eliminate diesel fine particulate matter emissions from entering school bus cabins.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]