



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5033**

February Session, 2010

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05033TRA\_\_031610\_\_\_\_\_\*

**AN ACT REQUIRING SCHOOL BUSES TO BE EQUIPPED WITH SEAT SAFETY BELTS.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 14-275 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2010*):

4 (c) Each school bus shall be equipped with special automatic,  
5 electrically-operated flashing stop signals, which shall be independent  
6 and separate from the braking, stop and tail lights of standard  
7 equipment. Such flashing lights may include automatic traffic  
8 signalling devices showing red and amber lights and shall be so  
9 located that adequate warning will be afforded to both oncoming and  
10 overtaking traffic, except that each school bus manufactured on and  
11 after October 1, 1984, and registered for use in this state shall be  
12 equipped with an eight-light warning system, showing two red  
13 flashing stop signals and two amber flashing warning signals on the  
14 front and rear of the bus, and a stop semaphore. The commissioner  
15 may adopt standards for an eight-light warning system and standards  
16 and specifications for the construction of school buses and for  
17 equipment to be maintained on school buses consistent with the  
18 provisions of sections 14-275 to 14-281, inclusive. Both public and  
19 private owners of school buses shall maintain a record of such kinds of

20 repairs made to such buses as the commissioner may require and such  
 21 work record shall be available at all times to the commissioner and the  
 22 commissioner's designated assistants. All such maintenance records  
 23 shall be retained for a period of two years. Each school bus shall be  
 24 equipped with emergency lighting equipment as provided by section  
 25 14-97a, with a defrosting device as provided by section 14-97, with a  
 26 system of mirrors as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations Title  
 27 49, Section 571.111, as amended, or with an outside mirror as provided  
 28 by section 14-99 and a system of crossover mirrors designed and  
 29 mounted so as to give the driver a view of the road from the front  
 30 bumper forward to a point where direct observation is possible and  
 31 along the left and right sides of the bus, with a signalling device as  
 32 provided by section 14-101, and with chain nonskid devices for  
 33 immediate use on at least one outside or inside rear tire on each side or  
 34 tires designed to prevent skidding on all rear wheels when weather  
 35 and highway conditions require such use. Commencing February 1,  
 36 1974, each new school bus with a vehicle air brake system shall be so  
 37 equipped that the brake system is operated from a separate air  
 38 reservoir tank other than the air reservoir tank used to operate any  
 39 other compressed air or vacuum operated devices with which the  
 40 school bus may be equipped. The seating requirements of section 14-  
 41 273 shall be observed. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 14-98,  
 42 school buses may be equipped with tires incorporating a metal  
 43 nonskid device during the period from October fifteenth to April  
 44 thirtieth, inclusive. Each school bus that is model year 2007 or newer  
 45 shall be equipped with a crossing control arm mounted on the right  
 46 end of the front bumper. The commissioner shall establish additional  
 47 standards and requirements for such devices in regulations adopted in  
 48 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. Each school bus that is  
 49 model year 2012 or newer shall be equipped with lap/shoulder (3-  
 50 point) seat safety belts.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2010	14-275(c)

**TRA**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*