

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL BUSES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. Section 291-11.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3           "(b) [The] Except as otherwise provided in section  
4 302A-407(b), passengers of the following motor vehicles shall be  
5 exempt from the requirements of this section: emergency and  
6 mass transit vehicles. Further exemptions from this section may  
7 be established by rules adopted by the department of  
8 transportation pursuant to chapter 91.

9           As used in this section, unless the context otherwise  
10 requires:

11           "Emergency vehicle" means an ambulance, a firefighting or  
12 rescue vehicle, or a police vehicle while on duty.

13           "Mass transit vehicle" means a bus, including a school bus  
14 (but excluding a charter or sightseeing service bus) with a  
15 gross vehicle weight rating that is over 10,000 pounds, whether  
16 publicly or privately owned, which provides service to the



1 general public or provides special service on a regular or  
2 continuing basis."

3 SECTION 2. Section 302A-407, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "§302A-407 School bus contracts. (a) Any school bus  
6 contract between the State and the contractor shall include a  
7 provision requiring the contractor to equip the contractor's  
8 vehicles with the signs and visual signals described in section  
9 291C-95(d) and (g). The contract shall also include other  
10 provisions as may be deemed necessary by the State for the  
11 safety of school bus passengers and shall include provisions  
12 requiring compliance with the rules and standards described in  
13 section 286-181.

14 (b) By July 1, 2050, all school bus contracts shall  
15 require all contractor's vehicles to be:

16 (1) Propelled by electric power or a non-fossil fuel;  
17 provided that any school bus contract entered into  
18 between the effective date of this Act and January 1,  
19 2050, shall include a provision that requires the  
20 contractor to replace any contractor's vehicle that is  
21 disposed of, transferred, sold, or otherwise taken out



1           of service by that contractor with a contractor's  
2           vehicle that is propelled by electric power or a non-  
3           fossil fuel; and

4           (2) Equipped with a seat belt assembly at each designated  
5           seating position as provided in section 291-11.6.

6           ~~(b)~~ (c) All moneys received from students and parents or  
7 guardians of students by public schools for state-provided  
8 school busing services, as authorized by section 302A-406, shall  
9 be deposited into the school bus fare revolving fund. Except as  
10 otherwise provided by the legislature, expenditures for the  
11 operation of state-contracted school bus services, as authorized  
12 by section 302A-406, shall be made from this fund."

13           SECTION 3. The department of education shall submit a  
14 report of findings and recommendations regarding the potential  
15 costs, industry and technology trends, practical experiences of  
16 local stakeholders, and other matters that may affect the  
17 implementation of this measure, including any proposed  
18 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
19 to the convening of the regular session of 2021.

20           SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
21 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



**Report Title:**

School Buses; School Bus Contracts; Electric Buses; Non-fossil Fuel; Seat Belts; Department of Education

**Description:**

Requires all school bus contracts to require contractor's vehicles to be propelled by electric power or a non-fossil fuel and to be equipped with seat belt assemblies by July 1, 2050. Requires a report from the Department of Education. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

