
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]~~ ten thousand
16 pounds, whether publicly or privately owned, which provides



1 service to the general public or provides special service on a
2 regular or 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, any school bus contract between the
15 State and the contractor shall require all of the contracted-for
16 vehicles to be:

17 (1) Propelled by electric power or a non-fossil fuel;
18 provided that any school bus contract entered into
19 between the effective date of this Act and January 1,
20 2050, shall include a provision that requires the
21 contractor to replace any contracted-for vehicle that



1 is disposed of, transferred, sold, or otherwise taken
2 out of service by the applicable contractor with a
3 contracted-for vehicle that is propelled by electric
4 power or a non-fossil fuel; and

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

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

14 SECTION 3. The department of education shall submit a
15 report of its findings and recommendations regarding the
16 potential costs to implement the requirements of section
17 302A-407(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes; and any industry and
18 technology trends, practical experiences of local stakeholders,
19 and other matters that may affect the implementation of this
20 Act, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no



1 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
2 session of 2021.

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 Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed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

5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

DOE; School Buses; School Bus Contracts; Electric Buses; Non-fossil Fuel; Seat Belts

Description:

Requires certain school bus contracts entered into after 1/1/2050 to require contracted-for vehicles to be propelled by electric power or a non-fossil fuel and to be equipped with seat belt assemblies. Requires the Department of Education to submit a report regarding certain aspects relating to implementation of the requirements of section 302A-407(b), HRS. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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