
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STUDENT TRANSPORTATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a shortage
2 of school bus drivers in the State. This shortage has
3 contributed to the suspension or cancelation of bus
4 transportation services at ten high schools on Oahu and four
5 schools on Kauai.

6 The legislature further finds that many school buses
7 transport few students, making standard size school buses
8 unnecessary. Drivers of standard size school buses are required
9 to hold commercial driver's licenses, while those that drive
10 motor vehicles that do not fall within the definition of a
11 commercial motor vehicle, like passenger vans carrying less than
12 sixteen people, do not. If the department of education and its
13 student transportation contractors prioritize the use of
14 vehicles that do not fall within the definition of a commercial
15 motor vehicle, this may alleviate the shortage of drivers, and
16 ultimately the lack of student transportation services, because



1 student transportation drivers will no longer need a commercial
2 driver's license.

3 The purpose of this Act is to require school bus contracts
4 to include provisions that require contractors to prioritize the
5 use of motor vehicles that do not require those drivers to hold
6 a commercial driver's license.

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

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

18 (b) In addition to the requirements of subsection (a), any
19 school bus contract between the State and the contractor shall
20 include provisions requiring the contractor to prioritize the



1 use of vehicles that do not require drivers to hold a commercial
2 driver's license.

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

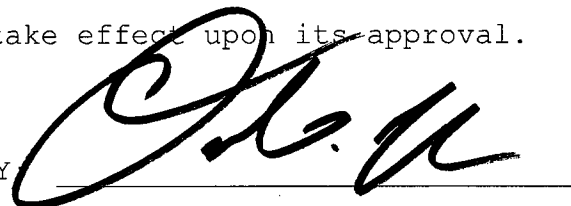
10 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
11 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
13 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
14 begun before its effective date.

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

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INTRODUCED BY



JAN 22 2024



H.B. NO. 2280

Report Title:

School Bus Contracts; Licensing

Description:

Requires Department of Education school bus contracts to include provisions that require contractors to prioritize the use of motor vehicles that do not require those drivers to hold a commercial driver's license.

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

