
By: **Delegate Proctor**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 1998

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **School Buses - Display of Telephone Number for Reports of Unsafe Driving**
3 **Practices**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing each county board of education to require school
5 buses operated in its jurisdiction to display a telephone number that may be
6 called by a person who wishes to report the unsafe driving practices of the
7 operator of a school bus; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to adopt
8 regulations specifying the size, design, and placement of a telephone number to
9 be displayed on the rear of a school bus; requiring a county board that requires
10 the display of telephone numbers on school buses to designate a person
11 responsible for receiving, recording, and investigating reports of unsafe driving
12 by school bus operators and to specify certain actions that may be taken against
13 unsafe school bus operators; making a stylistic change; and generally relating to
14 the display of telephone numbers on school buses.

15 BY adding to
16 Article - Education
17 Section 7-808
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
21 Article - Transportation
22 Section 25-110
23 Annotated Code of Maryland
24 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

25 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
26 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

1

Article - Education

2 7-808.

3 (A) EACH COUNTY BOARD MAY REQUIRE SCHOOL BUSES OPERATED WITHIN
4 ITS JURISDICTION TO PROMINENTLY DISPLAY A TELEPHONE NUMBER THAT MAY BE
5 CALLED IN THE EVENT A PERSON WITNESSES AND WISHES TO REPORT ANY UNSAFE
6 DRIVING PRACTICES OF THE OPERATOR OF A SCHOOL BUS.

7 (B) IF REQUIRED BY THE COUNTY BOARD, EACH SCHOOL BUS OPERATED IN
8 THE COUNTY SHALL DISPLAY A TELEPHONE NUMBER ON THE REAR OF THE SCHOOL
9 BUS IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE SCHOOL VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER IN
10 THE MANNER REQUIRED BY THE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION IN
11 REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER § 25-110 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.

12 (C) A COUNTY BOARD THAT REQUIRES THE DISPLAY OF A TELEPHONE
13 NUMBER ON SCHOOL BUSES SHALL:

14 (1) DESIGNATE A PUBLIC AGENCY, PRIVATE CONTRACTOR, OR OTHER
15 PERSON THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RECEIVING, RECORDING, AND INVESTIGATING
16 REPORTS OF UNSAFE DRIVING PRACTICES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IN
17 ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURES ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY BOARD IN
18 CONSULTATION WITH THE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION; AND

19 (2) SPECIFY THOSE PERSONNEL, DISCIPLINARY, OR LAW ENFORCEMENT
20 ACTIONS THAT MAY BE TAKEN WITH RESPECT TO A SCHOOL BUS OPERATOR WHO IS
21 THE SUBJECT OF A REPORT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

22

Article - Transportation

23 25-110.

24 (a) (1) With the advice of the State Department of Education, the [Motor
25 Vehicle] Administration shall adopt and enforce rules and regulations not
26 inconsistent with the Maryland Vehicle Law to govern the safe operation of all school
27 vehicles.

28 (2) The following shall be subject to the rules and regulations adopted
29 under this section:

30 (i) Every school or school district and its officers and employees;

31 (ii) Every person employed under contract by a school or school
32 district; and

33 (iii) Every person that owns or operates a school vehicle.

34 (b) (1) Any officer or employee of any school or school district who violates
35 any rule or regulation adopted under this section or fails to include the obligation to
36 comply with these rules and regulations in any contract executed by him on behalf of

1 a school or school district is guilty of misconduct and subject to removal from office or
2 employment.

3 (2) Any person that owns or operates a school vehicle and violates any
4 rule or regulation adopted under this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and the
5 vehicle involved is subject to suspension or revocation of its registration.

6 (C) (1) THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE ADMINISTRATION UNDER THIS
7 SECTION SHALL SPECIFY THE SIZE, DESIGN, AND PLACEMENT OF A TELEPHONE
8 NUMBER TO BE DISPLAYED ON THE REAR OF A SCHOOL VEHICLE FOR THE PURPOSES
9 OF § 7-808 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.

10 (2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH COUNTY BOARDS OF
11 EDUCATION AS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF § 7-808 OF THE
12 EDUCATION ARTICLE.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 1998.