

HOUSE BILL 1455

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8lr3290
CF SB 931

By: **Delegates Eckardt, Cane, and Haddaway**
Introduced and read first time: February 14, 2008
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations
Re-referred to: Ways and Means, February 25, 2008

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 19, 2008

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Dorchester County - School Buses - Length of Operation**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the length of time a school bus may be operated in
4 Dorchester County; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally
5 relating to the length of time a school bus may be operated in Dorchester
6 County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Education
9 Section 7-804
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Education**

15 7-804.

16 (a) In this section, "school vehicle" has the meaning stated in § 11-154 of the
17 Transportation Article.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection,
2 unless it fails to meet the applicable school bus and motor vehicle safety standards, a
3 school vehicle may be operated for 12 years.

4 (2) (i) In **DORCHESTER**, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester
5 counties, unless it fails to meet the applicable school bus and motor vehicle safety
6 standards, a school vehicle may be operated for 15 years.

7 (ii) A school vehicle operating under subparagraph (i) of this
8 paragraph shall be maintained as provided in subsection (c) of this section.

9 (3) Any school vehicle in operation or accepted before July 1, 2004, or
10 under contract to be purchased before July 1, 2004, that meets the specifications of the
11 Department and of the Motor Vehicle Administration for transit style school vehicles
12 may be operated for 15 years.

13 (c) Notwithstanding the 12-year limitation in subsection (b)(1) of this
14 section, a school vehicle may be operated for additional years if:

15 (1) The school vehicle is maintained under a preventive maintenance
16 plan approved by the Motor Vehicle Administration and the Automotive Safety
17 Enforcement Division of the Department of State Police that includes an inspection at
18 the end of the 12th year and a minimum of 2 inspections by the Motor Vehicle
19 Administration each year thereafter;

20 (2) Any structural repairs to the school vehicle necessitated by
21 accident, metal fatigue, or any other cause are certified by an independent expert
22 approved by the Motor Vehicle Administration to meet or exceed the manufacturer's
23 original manufacturing standards;

24 (3) The school vehicle is equipped with:

25 (i) The body originally placed on the chassis by the
26 manufacturer;

27 (ii) An 8 light warning system;

28 (iii) A left side stop arm;

29 (iv) A fire-retardant driver's seat;

30 (v) Fire-retardant barriers in the case of a school vehicle with a
31 front engine; and

32 (vi) A fire-retardant rear seating area in the case of a school
33 vehicle with a rear engine; and

1 (4) The State Superintendent grants approval.

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
3 July 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30,
4 2011, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
5 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.