

# SENATE BILL 931

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8lr3291  
CF HB 1455

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By: **Senator Colburn**

Introduced and read first time: February 21, 2008

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs, March 3, 2008

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 21, 2008

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## 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.

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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:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.