

## Chapter 524

**(Senate Bill 968)**

AN ACT concerning

**Education – School Bus – Fire Safety Standards**

FOR the purpose of ~~repealing~~ exempting the driver's seat of a school bus from the requirement that a school bus be constructed with certain materials that enable it to meet certain criteria established by the National School Transportation specifications and procedures adopted by the most recent National Congress on School Transportation; and generally relating to school bus fire safety standards.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 Article – Education  
 Section 7–808  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

**Article – Education**

7–808.

(a) In this section, “school bus” has the meaning stated in § 11–153 of the Transportation Article.

(b) **(1) [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A** school bus shall be constructed with materials that enable it to meet all the criteria of the school bus seat upholstery fire block test established by the National School Transportation specifications and procedures adopted at the most recent National Congress on School Transportation.

**(2) THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION DO NOT APPLY TO THE DRIVER’S SEAT OF A SCHOOL BUS.**

(c) The Motor Vehicle Administration, with the advice of the Department, shall adopt regulations to promote fire safety standards of school buses.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

**Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2026.**