

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
108TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

(Filing No. H-427)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1017, L.D. 1232, Bill,
"AN ACT to Clarify the Statutory Provisions Concerning the
Legal Capacity of a School Bus."

Amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting
clause and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §2012, sub-§1, ¶G, as repealed and replaced
by PL 1973, c. 780, §4, is amended to read:

G. Effective September 1, 1977 1979, school buses with
a carrying capacity of 20 or less passengers shall comply
with the requirements of paragraphs B, C and E.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §2014, sub-§1, as last repealed and replaced
by PL 1975, c. 768, §3, is repealed and the following enacted in
its place:

1. Seating. All school buses shall conform to the following
seating requirements.

A. The seating capacity specified by the manufacturer
shall be determined by dividing the linear width of each
seat by 13 and then rounding the quotient down to the nearest
whole number.

B. The maximum seating capacity for students attending
grades 9 through 12, or any combination of students
attending grades kindergarten through 12, shall be 85%
of the manufacturer's specified seating capacity.

C. The maximum seating capacity for grades kindergarten through 8 shall be the manufacturer's specified seating capacity.

D. There shall be no auxiliary seating accommodations such as temporary or jump seats.

E. Effective September 1, 1979, all seats shall face the front of the bus and shall be divided by a center aisle which is at least 12 inches wide.

F. The seating capacity shall be displayed on each school bus in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services.

G. Any bus constructed to provide at least 15 inches of seat width per student shall be exempt from paragraph

B.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to change the effective dates in the bill to enable school districts and other organizations which use school buses to obtain buses that conform to federal standards. Recently, federal standards have changed, and school buses that conform to these standards and new state standards may not be available for 2 more years. This amendment

also exempts school buses in which the seating capacity per student exceeds the minimum established in the bill.

Reported by the Committee on Transportation.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

5/27/77

(Filing No. H-427)