

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 3. Other passengers. School buses being operated
2 on a public way and transporting passengers other
3 than provided in section 2011 who do not include
4 school-age persons, as defined in section 2019, shall
5 have the words "school bus" covered, removed or
6 otherwise concealed and the school bus signal lamps
7 shall not be operable.

8 4. Application. No vehicle shall may be
9 operated on any public way displaying the words
10 "school bus" or with any of the equipment provided for
11 by this section unless it is being used for
12 transportation provided by section 2011 school-age
13 persons, as defined in section 2019.

14 Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §2019 sub-§1, as amended by PL
15 1979, c. 670, §25, is further amended to read:

16 1. Receiving or discharging passengers. All
17 The operator of any school bus operators carrying
18 school-age persons shall activate the system of
19 flashing lights at least 100 feet before any stop is
20 made to receive or discharge its passengers and these
21 lights shall be continually continue to be
22 displayed until after the bus has received or
23 discharged its passengers.

24 Sec. 3. 29 MRSA §2019 sub-§2, as amended by PL
25 1979, c. 101, is further amended to read:

26 2. Stopping. The operator of a vehicle on a way
27 or on school property, upon meeting or overtaking a
28 school bus from either direction a school bus which
29 has stopped, with its red lights flashing, on the
30 way to receive or discharge school children, shall
31 stop the vehicle before reaching the school bus, and
32 the operator shall not proceed until the school bus
33 resumes motion or until signaled by the school bus
34 operator to proceed.

35 Sec. 4. 29 MRSA §2019, sub-§4, as repealed and
36 replaced by PL 1977, c. 78, §168, is amended to read:

37 4. Use of flashing lights restricted. The
38 operator of any A school bus operator shall not

1 use the system of flashing lights on a school bus for
2 any purpose other than controlling traffic in
3 connection with the stopping of that bus for the
4 purpose of receiving or discharging school children
5 school-age persons.

6 Sec. 5. 29 MRSA §2019, sub-§6 is enacted to
7 read:

8 6. Definition: school-age person. As used in
9 this section, unless the context otherwise indicates,
10 "school-age person" means all children up to the age
11 of 18 years, as well as persons 18 years and older who
12 are enrolled in a state-approved program of primary or
13 secondary education, as defined in Title 20-A.

14 STATEMENT OF FACT

15 This new draft extends the protection of flashing
16 lights on school buses to include all school-age
17 persons for any type of activity at any time of year.
18 Present law only applies to "school children" for
19 school or school approved activities, while the
20 original bill would have extended coverage to
21 passengers in general.

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