

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)

BWG
ROB

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33

L.D. 19

Date: 5/1/19

(Filing No. H-190)

TRANSPORTATION

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

**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 20, L.D. 19, Bill, "An Act To Require Public School Buses To Be Equipped with School Bus Crossing Arms"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Require Newly Purchased Public School Buses To Be Equipped with School Bus Crossing Arms'

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, it is necessary to enact this legislation before model year 2021 school buses become available for purchase to avoid requiring previously purchased school buses to be retrofitted with a school bus crossing arm; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2301, sub-§5-C is enacted to read:

5-C. School bus crossing arm. "School bus crossing arm" means a device mounted on the front bumper of a school bus that is no shorter than 70 inches and no longer than the width of the school bus and when activated extends outward in front of the school bus to require students who cross the roadway in front of the school bus to maintain a safe distance in front of the school bus.'

Amend the bill in section 2 in §2302 by striking out all of subsection 1-A (page 1, lines 29 and 30 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

ROFS

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15

'1-A. School bus crossing arms. A school bus of model year 2021 or newer must be equipped with a school bus crossing arm.'

Amend the bill by adding before the summary the following:

'Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, rather than requiring all school buses to be equipped with a school bus crossing arm, requires school buses of model year 2021 or newer to be equipped with a school bus crossing arm. This amendment also clarifies the definition of "school bus crossing arm" and sets the minimum and maximum length of a school bus crossing arm. This amendment also makes the bill an emergency, to take effect when approved.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 19

LR 3(02)

An Act To Require Public School Buses To Be Equipped with School Bus Crossing Arms

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *A(H-190)*

Committee: Transportation

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Potential future biennium cost increase - General Fund

Potential future biennium cost increase - Local school administrative units

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Requiring all school buses with a model year of 2021 or newer be equipped with a school bus crossing arm may result in future increased costs to local school administrative units (SAU's) that purchase the newer model buses and to the State for increased subsidy amounts paid to local SAU's approved to purchase a bus through the School Bus Purchase Program.

According to the Department of Education, purchasing a school bus with a school bus crossing arm may increase the total cost of a school bus by as much as \$700 per bus. SAU's that are approved to purchase a new school bus through the School Bus Purchase Program receive funding from the State as part of their total subsidy to partially offset the cost of the new bus. The amount of subsidy is a set amount that is determined by the Office of Procurement Services within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and is based on bids from vendors that meet the minimum state specifications for school buses. This fiscal note assumes that the additional cost of crossing arms will be added to the subsidy amounts provided by the State. Those local SAU's that purchase buses outside of the School Bus Purchase Program will be responsible for 100% of the additional cost.