

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 19

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H.P. 20

House of Representatives, January 2, 2019

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

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative McCREIGHT of Harpswell.  
Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland and  
Representatives: AUSTIN of Skowhegan, KORNFIELD of Bangor, McCREA of Fort  
Fairfield, PIERCE of Falmouth, TALBOT ROSS of Portland, TERRY of Gorham, Senators:  
BREEN of Cumberland, ROSEN of Hancock.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

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

3 **5-C. School bus crossing arm.** "School bus crossing arm" means a device mounted  
4 on the front bumper of a school bus that when activated extends outward 8 to 10 feet in  
5 front of the school bus to require students to walk at least 10 feet in front of the school  
6 bus to cross the roadway.

7 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2302,** as amended by PL 2003, c. 293, §2, is further  
8 amended to read:

9 **§2302. School bus markings; lights; mirrors; school bus crossing arms**

10 **1. Identifications.** Each school bus:

11 A. Must be identified with the words, "school bus":

12 (1) Printed in letters not less than 8 inches high; and

13 (2) Located between the warning signal lamps as high as possible without  
14 impairing front and rear visibility of the lettering;

15 B. Must have no other lettering on the front or rear, except lettering not more than 4  
16 inches high indicating an emergency exit and a bus number;

17 C. Must be painted national school bus glossy yellow, except that the hood may be  
18 lusterless black;

19 D. Must have bumpers of glossy black unless painting is impracticable through use  
20 of rubber, reflective material or other devices;

21 E. Must be equipped with a system of signal lights that conform to school bus  
22 requirements approved by the Commissioner of Education;

23 F. Must be equipped with a system of mirrors that give the seated operator a view of  
24 the way to each side of the bus, and of the area immediately in front of the front  
25 bumper;

26 G. May be equipped with a system of stop arms to be operated only with the red  
27 signal lights; and

28 H. May be equipped with reflective strips of national school bus yellow.

29 **1-A. School bus crossing arms.** A school bus must be equipped with a school bus  
30 crossing arm.

31 **3. Other purposes.** A school bus permanently converted wholly to other purposes  
32 must be painted a color other than national school bus glossy yellow and have the words  
33 "school bus," school bus signal lights and stop arms removed.

34 **4. Other passengers.** A school bus operated on a public way and transporting  
35 passengers who do not include school-age persons must have the words "school bus"  
36 removed or concealed and the school bus signal lamps may not be operable.

