

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T I E T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 831

(Transmitted from the Revisor of Statutes Under Joint Order)

H. P. 1539

House of Representatives, February 14, 1941.

Referred to Committee on Motor Vehicles and sent up for concurrence.
650 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Bangs of Brunswick by request.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-ONE

AN ACT to Encourage Safety on School Buses.

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

Sec. 1. Term "school bus" defined. The term "school bus" includes all motor vehicles used for the transportation of children to and from school for hire.

Sec. 2. Descriptive sign to be attached. All school buses, as defined in section 1 shall bear upon the front and rear thereof a plainly visible sign "school bus" in letters not less than 4 inches in height which can be removed or covered when the vehicle is not in use as a school bus.

Sec. 3. Council orders enacted into law. Council orders No. 483 and No. 638 as approved are hereby enacted into law as follows :

No municipality and no person employed by a municipality to convey children to and from school may use a conveyance which provides less than one linear foot of seating space for each pupil.

In pleasure cars (so-called) used for the conveyance of school children not more than 2 such children shall be allowed on the front seat with the operator of the motor vehicle.

School buses shall be equipped with 2 doors, one on the right side near the front of the bus to be used for all ordinary exits and entrances; the other at the rear to be equipped with a spring lock on the inside to be used only in case of emergency.

The vehicle shall be so constructed that the operator has access to the passenger compartment without leaving the vehicle.

Exhaust pipe. Exhaust pipe shall extend beyond the external rear of the body of the bus, but not beyond the bumper, and shall be entirely outside of the body.

Gasoline tank. Gasoline tank, filler, vent, and drain openings shall be outside of the bus body.

There shall be flexible gasoline and oil proof connections at both ends of the gasoline feed line.

Fire extinguishers. Each bus shall be equipped with a fire extinguisher of a type and size approved by the laboratories of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

Equipment. That all new equipment purchased after January 1, 1940 for school conveyance purposes where the seating capacity is for over 20 passengers must conform to the school bus standards as accepted at the National Conference of School Bus Standards, Teachers College, Columbia University, April 16, 1939.

Sec. 4. Buses to stop before crossing railroad track. All school buses when conveying children shall come to a full stop before crossing any railroad track.