

**SCHOOL BUS SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Craig Hall**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies the Traffic Code by requiring a new school bus purchased after June 30, 2017, to be equipped with seatbelts.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ requires all new school buses purchased after June 30, 2017, to be equipped with seatbelts for all passengers;
- ▶ provides rulemaking authority; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**41-6a-1301**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 412

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **41-6a-1301** is amended to read:

**41-6a-1301. Standards and specifications for lighting and special warning devices**



28 **on school buses.**

29 (1) (a) A school bus shall be equipped with red signal lamps mounted as high and as  
30 widely spaced laterally as practicable.

31 (b) The red signal lamps shall display two alternately flashing red lights, located at the  
32 same level, to the front and rear of the school bus.

33 (c) The red signal lamps shall be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight.

34 (2) (a) A school bus shall be equipped with yellow signal lamps mounted near each of  
35 the four red signal lamps and at the same level but closer to the vertical centerline of the bus.

36 (b) The yellow signal lamps shall display two alternately flashing yellow lights to the  
37 front and rear of the school bus.

38 (c) The yellow signal lamps shall be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight.

39 (3) A school bus driver shall activate the yellow signal lamps at least 100 feet, but not  
40 more than 500 feet, before every stop at which the alternately flashing red lights are activated.

41 (4) (a) A school bus with a model year of 2017 or newer that is purchased after June  
42 30, 2017, shall be equipped with seatbelts available for use by each passenger on the school  
43 bus.

44 (b) In accordance with Section [41-6a-1304](#), the Department of Transportation shall  
45 adopt and enforce rules governing the design and installation of seatbelts on school buses.

46 [~~4~~] (5) A violation of this section is an infraction.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**