

# House File 315 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 315  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 99)

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to approved courses of instruction for school  
2 bus drivers.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.376, subsection 3, Code 2023, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. a. (1) A person applying for employment or employed as  
4 a school bus driver shall successfully complete a department of  
5 education approved course of instruction for school bus drivers  
6 before or within the first six months of employment ~~and~~.

7 (2) The department of education shall accept proof that a  
8 person successfully completed entry-level driver training in  
9 accordance with section 321.188, subsection 1, paragraph "c",  
10 if such training meets the requirements of 49 C.F.R. pt. 380,  
11 Appendix C, and 49 C.F.R. pt. 380, Appendix D, as completion of  
12 an approved course of instruction for school bus drivers.

13 (3) The department of education may adopt rules pursuant  
14 to chapter 17A to establish requirements for providers of  
15 entry-level driver training to comply with this paragraph.

16 b. A person employed as a school bus driver shall  
17 successfully complete a department of education approved  
18 course of instruction for school bus drivers at least every  
19 twenty-four months thereafter.

20 c. If an employee fails to provide an employer with a  
21 certificate of completion of the required school bus driver's  
22 course authorized under paragraph "a", the driver's employer  
23 shall report the failure to the department of education and  
24 the employee's authorization to operate a school bus shall  
25 be revoked. The department of education shall send notice  
26 of the revocation to both the employee and the employer. A  
27 person whose school bus authorization has been revoked under  
28 this section shall not be issued another authorization until  
29 certification of the completion of an approved school bus  
30 driver's course in accordance with paragraph "a" is received by  
31 the department of education.

32 EXPLANATION

33 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
34 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

35 Under current law, a person applying for employment or

1 employed as a school bus driver must successfully complete a  
2 course of instruction for school bus drivers approved by the  
3 department of education (DOE). The DOE establishes rules and  
4 requirements for such instruction courses. The course must be  
5 completed before or within the first six months of the person's  
6 employment and at least every 24 months thereafter.

7 Beginning February 7, 2022, the federal motor carrier safety  
8 administration requires persons seeking a commercial driver's  
9 license (CDL) for the first time, persons seeking to upgrade  
10 certain existing CDLs, and persons seeking to obtain a school  
11 bus, passenger, or hazardous materials endorsement to complete  
12 entry-level driver training (ELDT).

13 This bill requires DOE to accept proof that a person  
14 successfully completed ELDT as completion of an approved course  
15 of instruction for school bus drivers so long as that ELDT  
16 contains passenger endorsement training curriculum and school  
17 bus endorsement training curriculum.

18 The bill does not change the requirement for a person  
19 employed as a school bus driver to successfully complete a DOE  
20 approved course of instruction for school bus drivers at least  
21 every 24 months.

22 The bill makes corresponding and organizational changes to  
23 Code section 321.276(3).