

CHAPTER 206

SCHOOL BUSES

S. F. 671

AN ACT relating to safety standards for the construction of school buses and manner of use of certain safety equipment.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 SECTION 1. Section three hundred twenty-one point three hundred
2 seventy-three (321.373), Code 1966, as amended by chapter two hundred
3 eighty (280), section one (1), Acts of the Sixty-second General Assembly,
4 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in lieu thereof:

5 "1. Every school bus except private passenger vehicles used as school
6 buses shall be constructed and equipped to meet safety standards pre-
7 scribed in rules adopted by the state board of public instruction. Such
8 rules shall conform to safety standards set forth in federal laws and regu-
9 lations and shall conform, insofar as practicable, to the minimum standards
10 for school buses recommended by the national conference on school trans-
11 portation administered by the national commission on safety education and
12 published by the national education association.

13 2. Rules prescribed for school buses shall provide standards for structural
14 strength, materials, and insulation of the school bus body; color; seat and
15 aisle arrangement; dimension and construction of service door; control of
16 the front door or doors; emergency door and its location and construction;
17 windows; roof ventilators; heaters; location, filling, and draining of the fuel
18 tank; bumpers and how they shall be attached to the bus; lettering and
19 identification of the bus; stop signal arm; warning lights and flashing lights.

20 3. The rules prescribed for school buses shall include special rules for
21 passenger automobiles, and other vehicles designed to carry eight or fewer
22 pupils, when used as school buses.

23 4. Every school bus shall be equipped with a comfortable seat for each
24 child.

25 5. Vehicles owned by private parties and used as school buses shall have
26 reversed or covered the words 'school bus' wherever they appear on the
27 vehicle when the vehicle is not in use as a school bus. It shall be unlawful
28 to operate flashing stop warning signals on such privately-owned vehicles
29 except as provided in section three hundred twenty-one point three hun-
30 dred seventy-two (321.372) of the Code.

31 6. No vehicle except school buses shall be operated on any public high-
32 way if the vehicle is painted the color known as national school bus chrome.
33 This subsection shall not apply to any vehicle owned by a school corpora-
34 tion, church, or camp organization regularly transporting children; or by
35 a manufacturer of, distributor of, or dealer in school buses; and any per-
36 son purchasing a vehicle formerly used as a school bus shall have ten days
37 after such purchase to repaint the vehicle."

1 SEC. 2. Chapter two hundred eighty (280), section two (2), Acts of the
2 Sixty-second General Assembly, amending section three hundred twenty-
3 one point three hundred seventy-two (321.372), subsection one (1), Code
4 1966, is amended as follows:

5 1. By striking from line five (5) the word "amber".

6 2. By striking from lines five (5) and six (6) the words “, and the rear
7 red flashing warning lamps”.

8 3. By striking from line ten (10) the word “front”.

1 SEC. 3. Chapter two hundred eighty (280), section five (5), Acts of the
2 Sixty-second General Assembly, amending section three hundred twenty-one
3 point three hundred seventy-two (321.372), subsection four (4), Code 1966,
4 is hereby repealed.

1 SEC. 4. Section three hundred twenty-one point three hundred seventy-
2 two (321.372), subsection three (3), Code 1966, as amended by chapter two
3 hundred eighty (280), section two (2), Acts of the Sixty-second General As-
4 ssembly, is further amended by striking from line twelve (12) the word
5 “stop” and inserting in lieu thereof the words “red or amber”.

1 SEC. 5. This Act being deemed of immediate importance shall be in
2 full force and effect from and after its passage and publication in The Tipton
3 Conservative, a newspaper published at Tipton, Iowa, and in The Tele-
4 graph-Herald, a newspaper published at Dubuque, Iowa.

Approved June 2, 1969.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Act, Senate File 671, was published in The Tipton Con-
servative, Tipton, Iowa, June 12, 1969, and in The Telegraph-Herald, Dubuque, Iowa, June 9,
1969.

MELVIN D. SYNHORST, *Secretary of State.*

CHAPTER 207

SCHOOL BUS SPEED LIMITS

H. F. 60

AN ACT relating to the maximum speed limit for school buses.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 SECTION 1. Section three hundred twenty-one point three hundred
2 seventy-seven (321.377), Code 1966, is hereby repealed and the following
3 enacted in lieu thereof:

4 “No motor vehicle in use as a school bus shall be operated at a speed
5 in excess of sixty miles per hour on any interstate highway system or on
6 any four-lane primary highway. When not in operation on an interstate
7 highway system or on any four-lane primary highway, the maximum speed
8 for a school bus shall be fifty miles per hour when used for purposes of
9 an educational trip or for transporting pupils to and from any extracurricu-
10 lar activity, and forty-five miles per hour at all other times. Any violation
11 of this section, by a driver, shall be deemed sufficient cause for canceling his
12 contract. For the purpose of this section, interstate highways means those
13 highways included in the national system of interstate highways designat-
14 ed by the federal bureau of public roads and this state.”

Approved April 30, 1969.