

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 2754

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 21, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Holzapfel, Singer and Ruiz

SYNOPSIS

Directs Commissioner of Education to study safety of school bus passengers in certain emergency situations, including school bus accidents.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Transportation Committee on July 26, 2018, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/28/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning the study of school bus passenger safety.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
4 *of New Jersey:*

5

6 1. a. The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with
7 the Superintendent of the Division of State Police in the Department
8 of Law and Public Safety, the Director of the Division of Highway
9 Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, the
10 Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission,
11 and the Director of the Office of Homeland Security and
12 Preparedness, shall study ¹; ¹ the safety of school bus passengers
13 involved in emergency situations, including, but not limited to,
14 school bus accidents, such as head-on, rear-end, and side-impact
15 collisions, and situations where the school bus may roll over ¹;
16 safety technologies, including, but not limited to, speed restrictors,
17 automatic braking, electronic stability control, and event data
18 recorders, that are available in newly manufactured school buses or
19 may be installed in school buses after manufacture; and the
20 qualifications for school bus drivers, including, but not limited to, age,
21 physical fitness requirements, and necessary experience¹. The study
22 shall include an evaluation of the statutory and regulatory
23 requirements relating to school bus safety ¹, the oversight of school
24 bus operations, including, but not limited to, maintenance of vehicles,
25 school bus drivers qualifications, and audits of school districts and
26 contractors,¹ and the current policies, plans, and procedures
27 implemented by school districts.

28 b. Within 120 days of the effective date of this act, the
29 commissioner shall prepare and submit a report to the Governor
30 and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the
31 Legislature summarizing the study's findings and making
32 recommendations to improve the safety of school bus passengers.

33

34 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate STR committee amendments adopted July 26, 2018.