

[Second Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 2754**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**218th LEGISLATURE**

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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, Ruiz and Addiego**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires study of safety of school bus passengers in certain emergency situations, including school bus accidents; appropriates \$250,000.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As amended by the Senate on September 27, 2018.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/30/2018)**

1 AN ACT concerning the study of school bus passenger safety <sup>2</sup>and  
2 making an appropriation<sup>2</sup>.

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

6  
7 1. a. The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with  
8 the Superintendent of the Division of State Police in the Department  
9 of Law and Public Safety, the Director of the Division of Highway  
10 Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety, the  
11 Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission,  
12 and the Director of the Office of Homeland Security and  
13 Preparedness, shall study <sup>2</sup>or contract with a research institution to  
14 study<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>the safety of school bus passengers involved in  
15 emergency situations, including, but not limited to, school bus  
16 accidents, such as head-on, rear-end, and side-impact collisions, and  
17 situations where the school bus may roll over <sup>1</sup>; safety technologies,  
18 including, but not limited to, speed restrictors, automatic braking,  
19 electronic stability control, and event data recorders, that are  
20 available in newly manufactured school buses or may be installed in  
21 school buses after manufacture; and the qualifications for school  
22 bus drivers, including, but not limited to, age, physical fitness  
23 requirements, and necessary experience<sup>1</sup>. The study shall include  
24 an evaluation of the statutory and regulatory requirements relating  
25 to school bus safety <sup>1</sup>, the oversight of school bus operations,  
26 including, but not limited to, maintenance of vehicles, school bus  
27 drivers qualifications, and audits of school districts and  
28 contractors,<sup>1</sup> and the current policies, plans, and procedures  
29 implemented by school districts.

30 b. Within 120 days of the <sup>2</sup>**[effective date of this act]**  
31 completion of the study<sup>2</sup>, the commissioner <sup>2</sup>, in consultation with  
32 the Superintendent of the Division of State Police, the Director of  
33 the Division of Highway Traffic Safety, the Chief Administrator of  
34 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, and the Director of the  
35 Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness,<sup>2</sup> shall prepare and  
36 submit a report to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of  
37 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature summarizing the  
38 study's findings and making recommendations to improve the  
39 safety of school bus passengers.

40 <sup>2</sup>c. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
41 Department of Education the sum of \$250,000 to implement the  
42 provisions of this act.<sup>2</sup>

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:

<sup>1</sup>Senate STR committee amendments adopted July 26, 2018.

<sup>2</sup>Senate floor amendments adopted September 27, 2018.

1        2. This act shall take effect <sup>2</sup>**immediately** on the first day of  
2        the seventh month after enactment<sup>2</sup>.