

ASSEMBLY, No. 2959

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 12, 1997

By Assemblyman MALONE, Assemblywomen MYERS, Heck,
Assemblymen Wolfe, Holzapfel, Moran, Assemblywoman Allen,
Assemblymen Cottrell, DeSopo, Blee, Bodine and Chatzidakis

1 AN ACT concerning school buses and supplementing Title 39 of the
2 Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 of P.L.1983, c.206
8 (C.39:3B-5.1) or any other law to the contrary, a school district may
9 use a school bus manufactured on or after April 1, 1977, other than
10 those of the transit type whose gross vehicle weight exceeds 25,000
11 pounds, for pupil transportation purposes beyond the end of the
12 twelfth year from the date of its manufacture, if that bus is refurbished
13 according to standards established by the Division of Motor Vehicles.
14 A school bus refurbished according to the established standards may
15 be used for pupil transportation purposes for twelve years from the
16 date of refurbishment. The date of refurbishment shall be the date on
17 which all required refurbishment has been completed on the bus as
18 certified by the Division of Motor Vehicles.

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20 2. Any person who conducts a refurbishment on a school bus
21 pursuant to section 1 of this act shall certify to the New Jersey
22 Department of Education, Bureau of Pupil Transportation and the user
23 that the refurbishment conforms to the standards established by the
24 Division of Motor Vehicles.

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26 3. a. The Director to the Division of Motor Vehicles shall establish
27 a system for the registration of persons who engage in the business of
28 refurbishing school buses. A person shall not engage in the business
29 of refurbishing school buses, or act as a refurbisher of school buses,
30 pursuant to section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.)(now pending before the
31 Legislature as this bill) unless the person is registered with the
32 division.

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34 b. An application for registration shall be made on forms prescribed
35 by the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles. An applicant for
registration may be charged a fee set by the director. The director

1 shall establish standards and qualifications for registration and shall
2 refuse to register any applicant unless the person meets these standards
3 and qualifications.

4 c. The director shall issue a certificate of registration to every
5 person registered under this subsection, and the certificate shall be
6 valid for a period of two years from the date of issuance.

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8 4. The Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles, in consultation
9 with the Commissioner of the Department of Education, shall
10 promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative
11 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) necessary to
12 effectuate the provisions of this act. The rules and regulations shall
13 include, but not be limited to: standards for the proper and safe
14 refurbishment of school buses; the amount of the fee to be charged to
15 applicants for registration as a refurbisher of school buses; and the
16 standards and qualifications necessary for the issuance of a certificate
17 of registration as a refurbisher of school buses.

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19 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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22 STATEMENT

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24 This bill would permit the refurbishment of school buses
25 manufactured after April 1, 1977, other than those of the transit type
26 whose gross vehicle weight exceeds 25,000 pounds, in order to extend
27 the amount of time they may be used for pupil transportation purposes
28 beyond the current limit of 12 years. Under this bill, a school bus that
29 has been refurbished according to standards established by the Division
30 of Motor Vehicles may be used for pupil transportation purposes for
31 an additional 12 years.

32 The bill also provides for the registration of persons in the business
33 of school bus refurbishment. The Division of Motor Vehicles will set
34 the standards and qualifications for registration that must be met in
35 order to receive the certificate of registration. A certificate of
36 registration will be valid for a two year period.

37 The person who performs the refurbishment on the school bus will
38 also be required to certify to the Department of Education, Bureau of
39 Pupil Transportation and the user that the refurbishment conforms to
40 the standards established by the Division of Motor Vehicles.

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45 Permits the refurbishment of school buses to extend the life of the bus
46 by 12 years.