

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE BILL 1464
Second Edition Engrossed 5/25/93

Short Title: Seat Belts on Sch. Buses Required.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hightower; Barnes, Beall, Colton, DeVane, Easterling, Fitch, Fussell, Gamble, Gottovi, Holt, Jack Hunt, Jenkins, Joye, Justus, Moore, Ramsey, Rogers, Russell, Spears, Stamey, Sutton, Warner, Wilmoth, and C. Wilson.

Referred to: Education.

May 17, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL SCHOOL BUSES AND SCHOOL ACTIVITY BUSES
2 PURCHASED AFTER JULY 1, 1993, TO BE EQUIPPED WITH SEAT BELTS
3 AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO EQUIP NEW SCHOOL BUSES WITH
4 SEAT BELTS.
5

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 Section 1. G.S. 115C-47(24) reads as rewritten:

8 "(24) Purchase of Activity Buses with Local Capital Outlay Tax Funds. –
9 Local boards of education are authorized to purchase activity buses
10 with local capital outlay tax funds, and are authorized to maintain
11 these buses in the county school bus garage. Reimbursement to the
12 State Public School Fund shall be made for all maintenance cost
13 including labor, gasoline and oil, repair parts, tires and tubes,
14 antifreeze, etc. Labor cost reimbursements and local funds may be
15 used to employ additional mechanics so as to insure that all activity
16 buses owned and operated by local boards of education are maintained
17 in a safe mechanical condition. ~~The State Board of Education shall inspect~~
18 ~~each activity bus and recommend to the board whether the bus should be~~
19 ~~replaced but replacements will be determined by the local board of~~

1 ~~education. Such replacement~~ Replacement units for activity buses shall
2 be financed with local funds.

3 Activity buses purchased after July 1, 1993, shall be equipped with
4 seat belts for all passengers."

5 Sec. 2. G.S. 115C-240(c) reads as rewritten:

6 "(c) The State Board of Education shall from time to time adopt such rules and
7 regulations with reference to the construction, equipment, color, and maintenance of
8 school buses, the number of pupils who may be permitted to ride at the same time upon
9 any bus, and the age and qualifications of drivers of school buses as it shall deem to be
10 desirable for the purpose of promoting safety in the operation of school buses. No
11 school bus shall be operated for the transportation of pupils unless such bus is
12 constructed and maintained as prescribed in such regulations and is equipped with
13 adequate heating facilities, a standard signaling device for giving due notice that the bus
14 is about to make a turn, an alternating flashing stoplight on the front of the bus, an
15 alternating flashing stoplight on the rear of the bus, and such other warning devices, fire
16 protective equipment and first aid supplies as may be prescribed for installation upon
17 such buses by the regulation of the State Board of Education. All buses purchased after
18 July 1, 1993, shall be equipped with seat belts for all passengers."

19 Sec. 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the State Board of
20 Education the sum of nine hundred eighty-six thousand dollars (\$986,000) for the 1993-
21 94 fiscal year and the sum of nine hundred eighty-six thousand dollars (\$986,000) for
22 the 1994-95 fiscal year to equip all school buses purchased after July 1, 1993, with seat
23 belts for all passengers.

24 Sec. 4. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.