
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1246

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Kremen, Goldsmith, Mastin, Kessler, Van Luven, Dyer, Sheldon, Hymes, Quall, Basich, Morris, Chandler, Backlund, Talcott and Sheahan)

Read first time 02/20/95.

1 AN ACT Relating to the regulation of private school buses; amending
2 RCW 46.04.521 and 46.37.193; and adding a new section to chapter 46.37
3 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.04.521 and 1965 ex.s. c 155 s 90 are each amended
6 to read as follows:

7 School bus means every motor vehicle used regularly to transport
8 children to and from school or in connection with school activities,
9 which is subject to the requirements set forth in the most recent
10 edition of "Specifications for School Buses" published by the state
11 superintendent of public instruction, but does not include buses
12 operated by common carriers in urban transportation of school children
13 or private carrier buses operated as school buses in the transportation
14 of children to and from private schools or school activities.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.37.193 and 1990 c 241 s 10 are each amended to read
16 as follows:

17 Every school bus and private carrier bus, in addition to any other
18 equipment or distinctive markings required by this chapter, shall bear

1 upon the front and rear thereof, above the windows thereof, plainly
2 visible signs containing only the words "school bus" on a school bus
3 and only the words "private carrier bus" on a private carrier bus in
4 letters not less than eight inches in height, and in addition shall be
5 equipped with visual signals meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.190.

6 However, a private carrier bus that regularly transports children
7 to and from a private school or in connection with school activities
8 may display the words "school bus" in a manner provided in this section
9 and need not comply with the requirements set forth in the most recent
10 edition of "Specifications for School Buses" published by the
11 superintendent of public instruction.

12 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 46.37 RCW
13 to read as follows:

14 A private school bus is subject to the requirements set forth in
15 the National Standards for School Buses established by the national
16 safety council in effect at the time of the bus manufacture, as adopted
17 by rule by reference by the chief of the Washington state patrol. A
18 private school bus manufactured before 1980 must meet the minimum
19 standards set forth in the 1980 edition of the National Standards for
20 School Buses.

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