

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2974 Session of  
1996

INTRODUCED BY E. Z. TAYLOR, PLATTS, OLASZ, THOMAS, PESCI,  
SERAFINI, STURLA, FAJT, YOUNGBLOOD, GIGLIOTTI, LEDERER,  
L. I. COHEN, ADOLPH, BELFANTI, CURRY, HORSEY, STEELMAN,  
ROBINSON, BELARDI, McCALL, DeLUCA, GRUPPO, MUNDY, CAWLEY,  
KIRKLAND, TRELLO, JAMES AND WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 10, 1996

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, OCTOBER 10, 1996

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, further providing for general requirements for  
3 school buses.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 4552 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subsection to read:  
8 § 4552. General requirements for school buses.

9 \* \* \*

10 (d.1) Seat belts.--

11 (1) Every school bus shall be equipped with seats of a  
12 minimum seat back height of 28 inches, or 24 inches as  
13 measured from the seating reference point, and seat belts of  
14 the lap-belt type for each seating position on the bus or  
15 other child restraint systems that are in conformity with  
16 applicable Federal standards. The requirements under this  
17 subsection are mandated according to the following schedule:

1           (i) School buses may be equipped with these seats  
2           and seat belts on or after July 1, 1997.

3           (ii) Every new school bus purchased and manufactured  
4           after July 1, 1998, shall be equipped with these seats  
5           and seat belts.

6           (iii) By July 1, 2000, every school bus shall be  
7           equipped with these seats and seat belts.

8           (2) Beginning on September 1 of the second year next  
9           following the effective date of this subsection, each  
10           passenger on a school bus which is equipped with seat belts  
11           shall wear a properly adjusted and fastened seat belt or  
12           other child restraint system that is in conformity with  
13           applicable Federal standards at all times while the bus is in  
14           operation.

15           (3) The department shall adopt regulations implementing  
16           this subsection.

17           \* \* \*

18           Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.