

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 216 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY COHEN, BISHOP, MANN, CALTAGIRONE, COSTA, BELFANTI,
CURRY, DALEY, DePASQUALE, FABRIZIO, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GEORGE,
GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HALUSKA, HARHAI, JAMES, LEACH,
MAHONEY, McGEEHAN, MELIO, MURT, PETRONE, READSHAW, SHIMKUS,
SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, STABACK, STERN, SURRA, SWANGER, WATERS AND
YOUNGBLOOD, FEBRUARY 5, 2007

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 5, 2007

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 (b.4) Automatic fire suppression system.--

11 (1) Every school bus operated in this Commonwealth after
12 August 1, 2006, shall be equipped with an automatic fire
13 suppression system that satisfies the following
14 specifications:

15 (i) The engine compartment is protected by a vehicle
16 thermatic fire extinguisher with NAF S-III liquid

1 cleaning agent.

2 (ii) The system is activated by a quartzoid thermal
3 release bulb spray nozzle preset at 286 degrees
4 Fahrenheit and mounted downwind from potential ignition
5 points.

6 (iii) The thermal release bulb spray nozzle of the
7 system is connected to a steel canister capable of
8 holding a sufficient amount of liquid vaporizing
9 suppressant to protect the fire hazard area of the school
10 bus.

11 (iv) The fire suppressant in the system is
12 noncorrosive and does not leave any residue after
13 discharge.

14 (v) The fire suppression canister is equipped with a
15 pressure gauge that allows service personnel to monitor
16 the status of the charge of the canister.

17 (vi) The system is capable of being activated
18 regardless of whether the engine of the school bus is
19 running.

20 (2) For purposes of this subsection, the term "school
21 bus" includes a special needs or paratransit vehicle used in
22 the transportation of school children, owned by or under
23 contract with a school district or parochial or private
24 school.

25 * * *

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.