

April 7, 2005

H 1155. SAFE TRANSPORTATION FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS. TO ENSURE THE SAFEST TRANSPORTATION POSSIBLE FOR NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS INVOLVED IN SCHOOL-SPONSORED TRAVEL. Amends GS 115C-247 to require each local school board that operates activity buses to adopt a policy on use of the vehicles and requires the policy to restrict the use of these buses to counties within the athletic conference in which the school participates. Enacts new GS 115C-247.1 requiring the Dep't of Transportation to establish a system of certification of privately owned motorcoach companies that seek to contract with local school systems for the transportation of student and school personnel for school-sponsored trips. Sets out certain requirements for approved companies. Requires school units to use certified motorcoach companies.

Intro. by Sherrill.

Ref. to Education

GS 115C

June 1, 2005

H 1155. SAFE TRANSPORTATION FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS. Intro. 4/7/05. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Modifies amendment to GS 115C-247 to provide that each local board of education policy must permit the use of buses for travel to athletic events during the regular season and playoffs and for travel to other school-sponsored activities. Substitutes the term licensure for the term certification in proposed GS 115C-247.1. Modifies provision requiring that systems using motorcoach companies contract only with licensed companies to provide that it applies after the prescribed licensure system is in operation.

July 26, 2006

H 1155. SAFE TRANSPORTATION FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS. Filed 4/6/05. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Deletes proposed new GS 115-247.1, which required the Department of Transportation (DOT) to establish a system for licensure of companies contracting with school systems for transportation of students. Directs Department of Public Administration (DPI), in cooperation with DOT, to develop a program for issuing statewide permits to motor coach companies seeking to contract with local school systems for the transportation of students, school personnel, and other persons for school-sponsored trips. Directs DPI to review and amend recommended guidelines and procedures for school charter transportation adopted by the School Charter Transportation Safety Committee in December 2004 to meet requirements of new permit program. Mandates that new permit program require that: (1) a motor coach company demonstrate compliance with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations as evidenced by a prior on-site examination of its motor carrier operation in which the company received a safety fitness rating of "satisfactory"; (2) the satisfactory safety rating is current at the time the local board of education contracts for services; (3) the motor coach company has not had an out-of-service order issued against it within the prior twelve months; (4) the motor coach company adhere to motor vehicle laws; (5) a reasonable fee be collected to offset the costs of the program; (6) the needs of schools serving large populations of students with special needs be considered. Directs DPI to consult with the State Highway Patrol, the North Carolina School Boards Association, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the North Carolina Motorcoach Association, the North Carolina PTA, and other interested parties to discuss the program requirements. Directs DPI to report on development of the program to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by November 15, 2006. Directs the Committee to report its findings to the 2007 General Assembly.

August 14, 2006

SL 2006-208 (H 1155). SAFE TRANSPORTATION FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS. AN ACT TO ENSURE THE SAFEST TRANSPORTATION POSSIBLE FOR NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS INVOLVED IN SCHOOL-SPONSORED TRAVEL. Summarized in *Daily Bulletin* 4/7/05, 6/1/05, and 7/26/06. Enacted August 8, 2006. Effective August 8, 2006.