
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1057

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Mosbrucker, Orwall, Barkis, Stanford, Valdez, and Leavitt)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to school bus safety; and creating a new section.

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

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Subject to the availability of amounts
4 appropriated for this specific purpose, the Washington state
5 institute for public policy, in collaboration with the Washington
6 traffic safety commission, shall conduct an examination of school bus
7 safety issues associated with seat belts in all seating positions.

8 (2) The examination required by this section must include:

9 (a) A review of the best available science regarding seat belt
10 use in all seating positions in school buses with a gross vehicle
11 weight rating greater than ten thousand pounds;

12 (b) A review of laws and funding practices in other states
13 regarding: (i) The purchase of school buses with seat belts in all
14 seating positions; (ii) retrofitting existing school buses with seat
15 belts in all seating positions; (iii) student use of seat belts in
16 all seating positions; and (iv) increases or decreases in student
17 injuries attributable to the states' requirements;

18 (c) An identification of insurance and liability issues
19 associated with mandating the purchase of school buses with seat
20 belts in all seating positions, retrofitting existing school buses

1 with seat belts in all seating positions, and mandating the use of
2 seat belts in all seating positions;

3 (d) An identification of route scheduling issues associated with
4 mandating the use of seat belts in all seating positions; and

5 (e) An identification of the financial issues associated with
6 mandating the purchase of school buses with seat belts in all seating
7 positions, retrofitting existing school buses with seat belts in all
8 seating positions, or both, including costs, retrofitting and
9 compatibility issues, depreciation factors, and financial impacts
10 associated with potential changes in passenger capacity due to
11 mandated seat belt use.

12 (3) The Washington state institute for public policy must report
13 findings and recommendations resulting from the examination to the
14 superintendent of public instruction and, in accordance with RCW
15 43.01.036, the education and transportation committees of the house
16 of representatives and the senate by November 15, 2020.

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