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H.810

Introduced by Representatives O'Brien of Tunbridge, Anthony of Barre City,
Austin of Colchester, Bock of Chester, Coffey of Guilford,
Colston of Winooski, Demrow of Corinth, Durfee of
Shaftsbury, Fegard of Berkshire, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison
of Chittenden, James of Manchester, Jerome of Brandon,
Killackey of South Burlington, Kitzmiller of Montpelier,
Masland of Thetford, Morris of Springfield, Notte of Rutland
City, Page of Newport City, Redmond of Essex, Smith of New
Haven, Strong of Albany, Troiano of Stannard, Walz of Barre
City, White of Hartford, Yacovone of Morristown, and
Yantachka of Charlotte

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Motor vehicles; school bus operators; training; first aid

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require first
aid training for operators of Type I or Type II school buses, certain other
vehicles used for the transportation of students, and vehicles when the
operation requires an operator's license with a school bus endorsement.

An act relating to first aid training for school bus operators

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 4(34) is amended to read:

3 (34)(A) "School bus" means any motor vehicle used to transport
4 children to or from school or in connection with school activities, except:

5 * * *

6 (iv) Motor vehicles with a manufacturer's rated seating capacity of
7 fewer than 11 persons, including the operator, which are owned, leased, or
8 hired by a school, or for which services are reimbursed by a school. However,
9 if used to transport students, these shall be considered a Type II school bus for
10 purposes of licensure and reporting required under section 1282 of this title,
11 shall display an identification sign as prescribed in subdivision 1283(a)(1) of
12 this title, and shall be equipped with a simple system of at least two red
13 alternating warning lights; unless the driver is a school employee or a
14 volunteer subject to a criminal background check and is transporting no more
15 than five persons excluding the operator; provided that the vehicle has safety
16 belts for all persons being transported.

17 * * *

18 Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 1282 is amended to read:

19 § 1282. OPERATOR; EQUIPMENT AND INSPECTION

1 (a) Before a person may assume the duty of transporting school pupils in
2 either a Type I or Type II school bus or a vehicle that requires an operator's
3 license with a school bus endorsement, he or she shall as a minimum:

4 * * *

5 (6) Furnish to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles a current first aid
6 certificate issued by the American Red Cross or by an organization whose first
7 aid training program is at least equivalent to the American Red Cross first aid
8 training program, as determined by the Commissioner, that includes both first
9 aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

10 * * *

11 (d)(1) ~~No~~ Not less often than every two years, and before the start of a
12 school year, a person licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles to assume
13 the duty of transporting school pupils in either a Type I or Type II school bus
14 or who holds an operator's license with a school bus endorsement shall furnish
15 the employer who employs him or her as a school bus driver the following:

16 (A) a certificate signed by a licensed physician, a certified physician
17 assistant, or a nurse practitioner in accordance with written protocols,
18 certifying that the licensee is, as far as can be determined by reasonable inquiry
19 and examination, mentally and physically competent to perform his or her
20 duties and that he or she meets or exceeds the minimum hearing standards,
21 based on voice testing, as prescribed by the Commissioner; ~~and~~

1 (B) a certificate signed by a properly registered and authorized
2 medical doctor, ophthalmologist, optometrist, or nurse practitioner certifying
3 that he or she meets or exceeds the minimum vision standards as prescribed by
4 the Commissioner; and

5 (C) a current first aid certificate issued by the American Red Cross or
6 by an organization whose first aid training program is at least equivalent to the
7 American Red Cross first aid training program, as determined by the
8 Commissioner, that includes both first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation
9 (CPR).

10 (2) Upon receipt of a certificate required by this subsection ~~which that~~
11 indicates that the school bus driver is not mentally or physically competent, ~~or~~
12 does not meet the minimum hearing or vision standards, or has not completed
13 the requisite first aid training, the employer shall immediately notify the
14 Commissioner.

15 (3) The certificates required under subdivisions (1)(A) and (1)(B) of this
16 subsection may be valid for up to two years from the examination.

17 * * *

18 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

19 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.