



S.B. 344

127th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sen. Wagoner

BILL SUMMARY

- Prohibits universities and colleges from purchasing, leasing, renting, or chartering buses to transport students or employees unless the buses are equipped with occupant restraining devices for all passengers.
- Allows buses that currently are owned by universities and colleges and are not equipped with passenger occupant restraining devices to shuttle students or employees indefinitely, but allows such buses to transport students or employees on trips other than shuttle trips only for three years before requiring such buses to be equipped with passenger occupant restraining devices.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

The bill establishes requirements for passenger occupant restraining devices on buses used by universities or colleges to transport students and employees; the requirements are based primarily on whether the university or college owns the bus in question and secondarily on how the university or college uses a bus that they own. The bill defines "university or college" to include state and private universities and colleges located in the state that have a certificate of authorization from the Board of Regents, community colleges, university branches, and technical colleges (R.C. 4513.264(A)).

First, a university or college is prohibited from purchasing, leasing, renting, or chartering a bus and using that bus to transport students or employees of that university or college unless the bus is equipped with an occupant restraining device for every passenger seating position (R.C. 4513.264(B)). Next, in regard to buses that a university or college currently owns, the bill sets up two standards, depending upon how the university or college uses the bus.

A university or college may continue indefinitely to use buses that it currently owns that are not equipped with passenger occupant restraining devices to *shuttle* students or employees of that university or college. The bill defines "shuttle" as the transport in a bus of students or employees of a university or college, at a speed not exceeding 45 miles per hour, to a site that is located not greater than ten miles from the geographic center of the university or college or on a round trip of not more than 20 miles as measured from the geographic center of the university or college. (R.C. 4513.264(A) and (C)(1).)

However, a university or college that currently owns a bus that is not equipped with passenger occupant restraining devices may continue to use that bus to transport students or employees for trips *other than shuttle trips* only for a period of three years after the bill's effective date and thereafter is prohibited from using such a bus unless the bus is then equipped with passenger occupant restraining devices (R.C. 4513.264(C)(2)).

The bill does not establish penalties for violation of any of its provisions.

HISTORY

| ACTION | DATE |
|------------|----------|
| Introduced | 05-22-08 |

S0344-I-127.doc/jc