
Tennessee School Bus Specifications

The Background:

The Advisory Council on School Transportation was appointed by the State Board of Education during its regular meeting on October 25, 2002 and reauthorized by the Executive Director of the State Board in 2011. The committee's charge is to advise the Board on all aspects of pupil transportation and to make recommendations aimed to secure the continued safety of students who use school transportation in the State of Tennessee.

This agenda item proposes to amend Tennessee's Minimum School Bus Standards for all buses with a body tag "build date" later than July 1, 2012, to include a child alert/reminder system as proposed by the Tennessee Association of Pupil Transportation and the Tennessee State Board of Education Advisory Council on School Transportation in previous adoption cycles. The child alert/reminder system was intended to be included in the 2012 standards, but was not included due to a communication error. No school bus has been purchased without the child reminder system in the interim; however, this technical correction will insure that all Tennessee School Bus Distributors will continue to provide this important safety feature.

The Recommendation:

The SBE staff recommends adoption of the amendment by consent.

Tennessee School Bus Specifications July 1, 2012 Revision, page 30, Emergency Equipment Section is amended to include:

- F. *Each bus shall be equipped with a child alert/reminder system that will activate if the driver attempts to exit the school bus without walking to the rear of the bus to check for sleeping children.*