

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 169

BY REPRESENTATIVES ROBERT OWEN, AMEDEE, BRASS, EMERSON,  
FREIBERG, JEFFERSON, CHARLES OWEN, ST. BLANC, AND TARVER

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:81(CC), 158(K), and 3996(B)(75), relative to the powers and duties of  
3 public school governing authorities; to require public schools and school districts to  
4 establish carpool and bus line safety policies; to provide for applicability to  
5 nonpublic schools; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:81(CC), 158(K), and 3996(B)(75) are hereby enacted to read as  
8 follows:

9 §81. General powers of local public school boards

10 \* \* \*

11 CC. Each public school governing authority shall establish a policy that  
12 includes the following procedures for carpool and bus lines at any school that  
13 includes any of the grades kindergarten through five:

14 (1) Students shall remain a safe distance from the pick up area behind  
15 something material or immaterial intended to block passage, as deemed appropriate  
16 for the particular school building.

17 (2) Students shall wait in the pick up area and wait for vehicles to come to  
18 a complete stop.

19 (3) A student being dropped off shall remain in the appropriate passenger  
20 restraint until the vehicle in which he is a passenger comes to a complete stop.

21 (4) A student in grades kindergarten through three shall be accompanied by  
22 a school employee while he is walking to and from a pick up area.

23 (5) School administrators shall post signage regarding the carpool and bus  
24 line policy.

25 \* \* \*

1           §158. School buses for transportation of students; employment of bus operators;  
2                            alternative means of transportation; improvement of school bus turnarounds;  
3                            loading and unloading students

4   \*       \*       \*

5                            K. The provisions of R.S. 17:81(CC) relative to carpool and bus line policies  
6                            apply to any nonpublic school for which transportation of students is provided by a  
7                            city, parish, or other local public school board.

8   \*       \*       \*

9           §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

10    \*       \*       \*

11                            B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and  
12                            except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a  
13                            charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this  
14                            Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be  
15                            exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are  
16                            applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for  
17                            the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

18   \*       \*       \*

19    (75) Carpool and bus line policies, R.S. 17:81(CC).

20    \*       \*       \*

21           Section 2. This Act shall be known and may be cited as "The Safe Path from School  
22           Act".

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_