

SENATE BILL 954

By Harris

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 21 and Title 55, Chapter 9, Part 6, relative to restraint systems in school buses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 21, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a)

(1) Any bus ordered or purchased on or after July 1, 2016, for the purpose of being owned, operated, or leased by a public or private elementary or secondary school or school system, and that is intended to be used to transport students to or from school or to or from extracurricular activities and other school events, shall be equipped with a restraint system approved by the national transportation safety board for the driver and all passengers.

(2) Any bus owned, operated, or leased by a public or private elementary or secondary school or school system, and that is intended to be used to transport students to or from school or to or from extracurricular activities and other school events, shall no later than July 1, 2023, be equipped with a restraint system approved by the national transportation safety board for the driver and all passengers.

(b) The state board of education, in consultation with the department of safety, shall promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this section. All rules shall be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring
it.