

SENATE BILL 2771

By Bowling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39;  
Title 54 and Title 55, relative to the regulation of  
traffic in school zones.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 8, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) A county or municipality may hire employees or appoint volunteers to divert vehicles, excluding emergency vehicles, to an existing lane of traffic or to temporarily close a lane or portion of a public road or highway within a marked school zone for dropping off or picking up students at a public, private, or charter school within the jurisdiction of the county or municipality when a warning flasher or flashers are in operation and only during the period of time that is necessary for the convenience of dropping off or picking up students.

(b) The county or municipality shall ensure that appropriate signage is posted not less than five hundred feet (500') but not more than one thousand feet (1,000') in advance of the marked school zone informing drivers as to the traffic diversion or temporary closure at the approaching school zone. All regulatory and warning signs relating to the traffic diversion or temporary closure must comply with the manual on uniform traffic control devices (MUTCD).

(c) This section does not apply to highways that are part of the national system of interstate and defense highways and other federally designated highways.

(d) A motor vehicle operator who knowingly ignores a regulatory or warning sign posted pursuant to subsection (b) and drives into a lane or portion of a public road or

highway designated for dropping off or picking up students commits a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by fine only of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.