

HB 1776 -- School Bus Safety Belts

Sponsor: Bowman

Beginning January 1, 2007, new buses purchased or buses manufactured after that date must be equipped with lap-shoulder safety belts or other federally approved restraint systems. The bill specifies how the belts must be used and exempts the state and school districts, among others, from liability for non-use or misuse of the belt under conditions described in the bill.

School districts will be required to ensure that elementary schools within the district receive first priority in the allocation of buses equipped with safety restraint systems.