

SENATE BILL 754

R7

9lr0817

By: **Senators Pipkin, Jacobs, and Stone**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2009

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - School Buses - Prohibition on Permitting Sitting on Floor or**
3 **Standing**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person who is responsible for pupils on a school bus
5 from permitting any pupil to stand while the bus is in motion; prohibiting a
6 person who is responsible for pupils on a school bus from permitting any pupil
7 to sit on the floor; making certain conforming changes; and generally relating to
8 a prohibition on permitting pupils to sit on the floor or stand on a school bus.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Transportation
11 Section 21-1118
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article - Transportation**

17 21-1118.

18 (a) The driver of a school bus:

19 (1) Is responsible for its operation; and

20 (2) May not drive it into any roadway without first stopping and
21 determining that there is no danger from any other vehicle.

22 (b) The person responsible for any pupils on a school bus is:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) The teacher on the bus; or

2 (2) If a teacher is not present, the driver.

3 [(c) A person responsible for pupils on a school bus may not permit the
4 number of standing pupils to exceed one pupil for each part of the aisle that is
5 bounded on both sides by forward facing seats.

6 (d) A person responsible for pupils on a school bus may not permit any pupil
7 to stand if the school bus is equipped only with lengthwise or a combination of
8 lengthwise and forward facing seats.]

9 **(C) A PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PUPILS ON A SCHOOL BUS MAY NOT**
10 **PERMIT ANY PUPIL TO STAND WHILE THE BUS IS IN MOTION.**

11 [(e)] **(D)** A person responsible for pupils on a school bus may not permit any
12 pupil to stand in front of the stanchion and guardrail.

13 [(f)] **(E)** A person responsible for pupils on a school bus may not permit any
14 pupil to operate the front door opening mechanism, except in an emergency.

15 [(g)] **(F)** A person responsible for pupils on a school bus may not require **OR**
16 **PERMIT** any pupil to sit on the floor.

17 [(h)] **(G)** Except for the driver and any fuel station attendant, a person may
18 not occupy a school bus while it is being supplied with fuel.

19 [(i)] **(H)** Either the driver or an adult aide assigned to each school vehicle
20 that is used to transport handicapped children shall be certified as having successfully
21 completed a first aid–safety course approved by the Department of Education.

22 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**
23 **October 1, 2009.**