

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

HOUSE BILL 2815

By: Denney

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 9-104, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 533, O.S.L. 2004 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 9-104), which relates to transportation equipment; requiring transportation equipment to have a Plexiglas divider between the driver and passengers; specifying construction of divider; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 9-104, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 533, O.S.L. 2004 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 9-104), is amended to read as follows:

Section 9-104. A. As used in this title:

1. "Transportation equipment" means any vehicle or conveyance used for transportation of pupils from their homes to school and from school to their homes when the cost of rent, lease, purchase, maintenance, or operation of said vehicle or conveyance is defrayed in whole or in part from public school funds; and

2. "Auxiliary transportation equipment" includes but is not limited to equipment used for transporting students to and from extracurricular activities but does not include transportation equipment used for transporting students from their homes to school and from school to their homes.

B. 1. All transportation equipment shall be of such construction as to provide safe, comfortable and economical transportation of passengers. All such equipment which is used to transport ten or more public school children at one time shall be constructed, maintained and operated in accordance with all

requirements of laws of the State of Oklahoma and rules of the State Board of Education. After January 1, 2007, all transportation equipment used to transport ten or more public school children shall be equipped with a Plexiglas divider, or divider made of other similar material, between the driver seat and first row of passenger seats. The divider shall be constructed in a manner to prevent objects from the passenger area striking the driver.

2. All auxiliary transportation equipment shall be of such construction as to provide safe, comfortable and economical transportation of passengers. All auxiliary transportation equipment which is used to transport ten or more public school children at one time shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with all requirements of laws of this state.

C. Nothing in this act shall prevent the bidding by and purchase of new or used transportation equipment or new or used auxiliary transportation equipment from out-of-state dealers so long as they comply with Section 561 et seq. of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes regulating and licensing manufacturers, distributors, dealers, salesmen, etc., and hold a current motor vehicle dealers' license.

D. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a district board of education may paint or purchase auxiliary transportation equipment in a color or colors other than National School Bus Yellow.

E. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2006.

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