

By: Hughes

S.B. No. 445

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the use of a flashing warning signal light and certain  
3 other equipment by a person operating a school bus.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section [547.701](#), Transportation Code, is amended  
6 by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as  
7 follows:

8 (c) When a school bus is being stopped or is stopped on a  
9 highway to permit students to board or exit the bus, the operator of  
10 the bus shall activate all flashing warning signal lights and other  
11 equipment on the bus designed to warn other drivers that the bus is  
12 stopping to load or unload children.

13 (c-1) A person may not operate [~~such~~] a light or other  
14 equipment described by Subsection (c) except when a school [~~the~~]  
15 bus is being stopped or is stopped on a highway to:

16 (1) permit a student [~~students~~] to board or exit the  
17 bus; or

18 (2) distribute food to a student or the parent or  
19 guardian of a student.

20 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
21 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.  
22 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is  
23 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,  
24 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For

1 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the  
2 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred  
3 before that date.

4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.