

1-1 By: Hughes S.B. No. 445
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 26, 2021; March 9, 2021, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Transportation;
1-4 March 24, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
1-5 Nays 0; March 24, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	<u>X</u>			
1-9	<u>X</u>			
1-10	<u>X</u>			
1-11	<u>X</u>			
1-12	<u>X</u>			
1-13	<u>X</u>			
1-14	<u>X</u>			
1-15	<u>X</u>			
1-16	<u>X</u>			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the use of a flashing warning signal light and certain
1-20 other equipment by a person operating a school bus.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 547.701, Transportation Code, is amended
1-23 by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as
1-24 follows:

1-25 (c) When a school bus is being stopped or is stopped on a
1-26 highway to permit students to board or exit the bus, the operator of
1-27 the bus shall activate all flashing warning signal lights and other
1-28 equipment on the bus designed to warn other drivers that the bus is
1-29 stopping to load or unload children.

1-30 (c-1) A person may not operate ~~[such]~~ a light or other
1-31 equipment described by Subsection (c) except when a school ~~[the]~~
1-32 bus is being stopped or is stopped on a highway to:

1-33 (1) permit a student ~~[students]~~ to board or exit the
1-34 bus; or

1-35 (2) distribute food to a student or the parent or
1-36 guardian of a student.

1-37 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
1-38 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
1-39 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
1-40 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,
1-41 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
1-42 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
1-43 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
1-44 before that date.

1-45 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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