

1-1 By: West S.B. No. 1248
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 9, 2005; March 21, 2005, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; May 4, 2005,
1-4 reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0;
1-5 May 4, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to contracts by a school board with a juvenile board for
1-9 public school transportation.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 34.008, Education Code, is amended to
1-12 read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 34.008. CONTRACT WITH TRANSIT AUTHORITY, [OR]
1-14 COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATION COMPANY, OR JUVENILE BOARD. (a) A board
1-15 of county school trustees or school district board of trustees may
1-16 contract with a mass transit authority, ~~[or]~~ a commercial
1-17 transportation company, or a juvenile board for all or any part of a
1-18 district's public school transportation if the authority, ~~[or]~~
1-19 company, or board:

1-20 (1) requires its school bus drivers to have the
1-21 qualifications required by and to be certified in accordance with
1-22 standards established by the Department of Public Safety; and

1-23 (2) uses only those school buses or mass transit
1-24 authority buses in transporting 15 or more public school students
1-25 that meet or exceed safety standards for school buses established
1-26 under Section 34.002, Education Code.

1-27 (b) This section does not prohibit the county or school
1-28 district board from supplementing the state transportation cost
1-29 allotment with local funds necessary to provide complete
1-30 transportation services.

1-31 (c) A mass transit authority contracting under this section
1-32 for daily transportation of pre-primary, primary, or secondary
1-33 students to or from school shall conduct, in a manner and on a
1-34 schedule approved by the county or district school board, the
1-35 following education programs:

1-36 (1) a program to inform the public that public school
1-37 students will be riding on the authority's or company's buses;

1-38 (2) a program to educate the drivers of the buses to be
1-39 used under the contract of the special needs and problems of public
1-40 school students riding on the buses; and

1-41 (3) a program to educate public school students on bus
1-42 riding safety and any special considerations arising from the use
1-43 of the authority's or company's buses.

1-44 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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