

By: Hamilton, Ritter, Anderson, Deshotel,
Howard of Travis

H.B. No. 323

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to three-point seat belts on buses that transport
3 schoolchildren.

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

5 SECTION 1. The heading to Section 547.701, Transportation
6 Code, is amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 547.701. ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL
8 BUSES AND OTHER BUSES USED TO TRANSPORT SCHOOLCHILDREN.

9 SECTION 2. Section 547.701, Transportation Code, is amended
10 by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

11 (e) In this subsection, "bus" includes a school bus and a
12 school activity bus. A bus operated by or contracted for use by a
13 school district for the transportation of schoolchildren shall be
14 equipped with a three-point seat belt for each passenger, including
15 the operator. This subsection applies to:

16 (1) each bus purchased by a school district on or after
17 September 1, 2010, for the transportation of schoolchildren; and

18 (2) each school-chartered bus contracted for use by a
19 school district on or after September 1, 2014, for the
20 transportation of schoolchildren.

21 SECTION 3. The changes made by Section 2 of this Act do not
22 take effect unless the legislature appropriates money specifically
23 for the purpose of reimbursing school districts for expenses
24 incurred in complying with that section.

1 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.