

By: Hamilton

H.B. No. 323

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to seat belts on buses that transport schoolchildren.

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

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

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

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

(e) In this subsection, "bus" includes a school bus, a school activity bus, a school-chartered bus, and a bus operated by a mass transit authority under contract with a school district. A bus operated by or contracted for use by a school district for the transportation of schoolchildren shall be equipped with a seat belt for each passenger. This subsection applies to:

(1) each bus purchased by a school district on or after September 1, 2008, for the transportation of schoolchildren; and

(2) each bus operated by or contracted for use by a school district on or after September 1, 2017, for the transportation of schoolchildren.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.