

1-1 By: Garcia S.B. No. 693  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 31, 2017; February 15, 2017,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Transportation;  
 1-4 April 18, 2017, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 18, 2017,  
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 693 By: Garcia

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to three-point seat belts on buses that transport  
 1-22 schoolchildren.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 547.701(e), Transportation Code, is  
 1-25 amended to read as follows:

1-26 (e) In this subsection, "bus" includes a school bus, ~~and a~~  
 1-27 school activity bus, multifunction school activity bus, or  
 1-28 school-chartered bus. A bus operated by or contracted for use by a  
 1-29 school district for the transportation of schoolchildren shall be  
 1-30 equipped with a three-point seat belt for each passenger, including  
 1-31 the operator. This subsection does not apply to:

1-32 (1) a bus purchased by a school district that is a  
 1-33 model year 2017 or earlier; or

1-34 (2) a bus purchased by a school district that is a  
 1-35 model year 2018 or later if the board of trustees for the school  
 1-36 district:

1-37 (A) determines that the district's budget does  
 1-38 not permit the district to purchase a bus that is equipped with the  
 1-39 seat belts required by this subsection; and

1-40 (B) votes to approve that determination in a  
 1-41 public meeting [applies to:

1-42 (1) each bus purchased by a school district on or  
 1-43 after September 1, 2010, for the transportation of schoolchildren;  
 1-44 and

1-45 (2) each school-chartered bus contracted for use by a  
 1-46 school district on or after September 1, 2011, for the  
 1-47 transportation of schoolchildren].

1-48 SECTION 2. Section 547.701(f), Transportation Code, is  
 1-49 repealed.

1-50 SECTION 3. It is the public policy of this state to ensure  
 1-51 the safety of all students by taking every measure possible to  
 1-52 protect the lives and well-being of students during transportation  
 1-53 on a bus to and from school and extracurricular activities,  
 1-54 including the measure enacted in Section 547.701(e),  
 1-55 Transportation Code, as amended by this Act.

1-56 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

1-57 \* \* \* \* \*