S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

5834

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 20, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. McKEVITT, ERRIGO, BALL, WALKER, GIGLIO, ALFANO, BARRA -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BURLING, CALHOUN, McDONOUGH -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring school buses to display a toll free number for reporting an improper operation of such school bus

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 3623 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 3 to read as follows:

3. A TOLL FREE NUMBER WHICH MAY BE CONTACTED TO REPORT THE IMPROPER OPERATION OF A SCHOOL BUS SHALL BE CONSPICUOUSLY DISPLAYED ON THE EXTERIOR OF EVERY SCHOOL BUS. THE COMMISSIONER IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF MOTOR VEHICLES SHALL PROMULGATE REGULATIONS REGARDING THE SIZE AND LOCATION OF SUCH NUMBER. SUCH TOLL FREE NUMBER SHALL BE ESTABLISHED, OPERATED AND FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT. IN ADDITION, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ESTABLISH A PROCEDURE WHEREBY SUCH REPORTS ARE FORWARDED TO THE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS WITHIN A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME.

S 2. The commissioner of education in consultation with the commissioner of motor vehicles shall prepare a report and submit it to the governor, the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly by December 31, 2009 and on December thirty-first of each succeeding year. Such report shall contain an assessment of the impact on safety of requiring a toll free number to be displayed on school buses in accordance with the provisions of this act and specific recommendations to increase school bus safety.

S 3. Subparagraphs 10 and 11 of paragraph e of subdivision 1 of section 3623-a of the education law, as added by chapter 474 of the laws of 1996, are amended to read as follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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(10) the consideration for the contract or contracts made for the purpose of providing transportation by horse-drawn vehicle or vehicles, if any school district shall be required to provide such transportation; [and]

(11) TOLL FREE NUMBERS DISPLAYED ON THE EXTERIOR OF EVERY SCHOOL BUS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORTING IMPROPER OPERATION OF A SCHOOL BUS; AND

(12) other expenses for district operated transportation systems, as approved pursuant to regulations of the commissioner.

S 4. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after it shall have become a law, except that any rules or regulations necessary for the timely implementation of this act on its effective date shall be promulgated on or before such date.