

HOUSE BILL No. 1192

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 5-2-10.1; IC 9-13-2; IC 9-19; IC 10-21-1; IC 20-20-47; IC 20-27-4-10; IC 34-30-2-28.3.

Synopsis: Seat belts on school buses. Establishes the school bus safety equipment grant fund (fund), administered by the department of education, to provide grants to school corporations seeking to purchase or equip school buses and special purpose buses with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts or, if recommended by the state school bus committee, other proven safety equipment. Provides that a governing body may apply for a grant from the fund in an amount equal to 50% of the cost of purchasing or equipping a school bus or special purpose bus with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts or other safety equipment. Requires a governing body seeking to purchase a school bus or special purpose bus to request information concerning the cost of purchasing a school bus or special purpose bus equipped with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts. Requires the governing body to hold a public hearing on the costs and benefits of purchasing a school bus or special purpose bus with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts before voting on whether to purchase a school bus or special purpose bus equipped with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts. Allows a school corporation to use a portion of a grant from the safe schools fund or the secured school fund toward purchase or equipping school buses and special purpose buses with safety equipment. Requires each occupant of a school bus or special purpose bus that has a 3-point lap and shoulder safety belt to have the 3-point lap and shoulder safety belt properly fastened about the occupant's body at all times when the bus is in motion. Provides for an exception to the laws concerning other types of passenger restraint systems.

Effective: July 1, 2020.

Bartlett, Cook, Schaibley, Campbell

January 13, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Ways and Means.



Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1192

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education and to make an appropriation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 5-2-10.1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.211-2019,
2 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana safe schools fund is established
4 to do the following:

5 (1) Promote school safety through the:

6 (A) use of dogs trained to detect drugs and illegal substances;
7 and

8 (B) purchase of other equipment and materials used to
9 enhance the safety of schools.

10 (2) Combat truancy.

11 (3) Provide matching grants to schools for school safe haven
12 programs.

13 (4) Provide grants for school safety and safety plans. However, a
14 grant from the fund may not be used to employ a school resource
15 officer (as defined in IC 20-26-18.2-1) or a law enforcement
16 officer (as defined in IC 35-31.5-2-185).

17 (5) Provide educational outreach and training to school personnel



concerning:

- (A) the identification of;
- (B) the prevention of; and
- (C) intervention in;

bullying.

(6) Provide educational outreach to school personnel and training to school safety specialists and school resource officers concerning:

- (A) the identification of;
- (B) the prevention of; and
- (C) intervention in;

criminal organization activities.

(7) Provide grants for school wide programs to improve school climate and professional development and training for school personnel concerning:

- (A) alternatives to suspension and expulsion; and
- (B) evidence based practices that contribute to a positive school environment, including classroom management skills, positive behavioral intervention and support, restorative practices, and social emotional learning.

(8) Promote student safety through the purchase or equipping of school buses and special purpose buses with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts or other safety equipment for buses that are proven to substantially improve school bus safety, as determined by the state school bus committee established by IC 20-27-3-1.

(b) The fund consists of amounts deposited:

- (1) under IC 33-37-9-4; and
- (2) from any other public or private source.

(c) The institute shall determine grant recipients from the fund with a priority on awarding grants in the following order:

- (1) A grant for a safety plan.
- (2) A safe haven grant requested under section 10 of this chapter.
- (3) A safe haven grant requested under section 7 of this chapter.

(d) Except as provided in subsection (e), upon recommendation of the council, the institute shall establish a method for determining the maximum amount a grant recipient may receive under this section.

(e) A school corporation selected to participate in the school intergenerational safety pilot project by the department under IC 20-20-46-5 is eligible to receive a grant from the fund in an amount described in IC 20-20-46-4 in addition to a grant requested by the school corporation under section 6 of this chapter.



SECTION 2. IC 5-2-10.1-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.40-2014, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 6. (a) A school corporation, school corporation career and technical education school described in IC 20-37-1-1, or charter school (as defined in IC 20-24-1-4) may receive a grant from the fund for programs, equipment, services, or activities included in a safety plan submitted with the application for funds to the institute.

(b) A safety plan submitted under this section must include provisions for zero (0) tolerance for alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and weapons on school property, **and may include planned purchases or equipping of school buses and special purpose buses with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts or, if recommended by the state school bus committee established by IC 20-27-3-1, other proven safety equipment.** If the institute approves the safety plan and application, the treasurer of state shall disburse from the fund to the applicant the amount of the grant certified to the treasurer of state by the institute.

SECTION 3. IC 9-13-2-161, AS AMENDED BY P.L.198-2016, SECTION 163, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 161. (a) "School bus" means, except as provided in ~~subsection~~ **subsections (b) and (c)**, a bus used to transport preschool, elementary, or secondary school children to and from:

- (1) school;
- (2) school athletic games or contests; or
- (3) other school functions.

(b) "School bus", for purposes of IC 9-21, means a motor vehicle owned by a public or governmental agency and operated for the transportation of children to or from school, including project headstart, or privately owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of children to and from school, including project headstart.

(c) "School bus", for purposes of IC 9-19, means a:

- (1) bus;
- (2) hack;
- (3) conveyance;
- (4) commercial motor vehicle; or
- (5) motor vehicle;

used to transport students from an elementary school (as defined in IC 20-18-2-4) or a high school (as defined in IC 20-18-2-7), or students in any combination of grades included under IC 20-18-2-4 and IC 20-18-2-7, to and from school or to and from school athletic



1 games or contests or other school functions. The term does not
 2 include a privately owned motor vehicle with a capacity of not
 3 more than five (5) passengers that is used for the purpose of
 4 transporting school children to and from school.

5 SECTION 4. IC 9-13-2-170.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.107-2006,
 6 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 7 JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 170.7. (a) "Special purpose bus" ~~has the meaning~~
 8 ~~set forth in IC 20-27-2-10.~~ means, except as provided in subsection
 9 (b), a motor vehicle:

10 (1) that is designed and constructed for the accommodation of
 11 more than ten (10) passengers;

12 (2) that:

13 (A) meets the federal school bus safety requirements under
 14 49 U.S.C. 30125, except the:

15 (i) stop signal arm required under federal motor vehicle
 16 safety standard (FMVSS) no. 131; and

17 (ii) flashing lamps required under federal motor vehicle
 18 safety standard (FMVSS) no. 108;

19 (B) when owned by a school corporation and used to
 20 transport students, complies with the Federal Motor
 21 Carrier Safety Regulations as prescribed by the United
 22 States Department of Transportation Federal Motor
 23 Carrier Safety Administration as set forth in 49 CFR
 24 Chapter III Subchapter B; or

25 (C) when owned by a school corporation and used to
 26 transport students, is a motor coach type bus with a
 27 capacity of at least thirty (30) passengers and a gross
 28 vehicle weight rating greater than twenty-six thousand
 29 (26,000) pounds; and

30 (3) that is used by a school corporation for transportation
 31 purposes appropriate under IC 20-27-9-5.

32 (b) "Special purpose bus", for purposes of IC 9-19, means a
 33 motor vehicle:

34 (1) that is designed and constructed for the accommodation of
 35 more than ten (10) passengers;

36 (2) that:

37 (A) meets the federal school bus safety requirements under
 38 49 U.S.C. 30125, except the:

39 (i) stop signal arm required under federal motor vehicle
 40 safety standard (FMVSS) no. 131; and

41 (ii) flashing lamps required under federal motor vehicle
 42 safety standard (FMVSS) no. 108;



(B) when used to transport students, complies with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations as prescribed by the United States Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration as set forth in 49 CFR Chapter III Subchapter B; or

(C) when used to transport students, is a motor coach type bus with a capacity of at least thirty (30) passengers and a gross vehicle weight rating greater than twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds; and

(3) that is used for transportation purposes by a:

(A) school corporation;

(B) charter school; or

(C) nonpublic school.

SECTION 5. IC 9-19-10-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.198-2016, SECTION 334, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 1. This chapter does not apply to an occupant of a motor vehicle who meets any of the following conditions:

(1) For medical reasons should not wear safety belts, provided the occupant has written documentation of the medical reasons from a physician.

(2) Is a child required to be restrained by a child restraint system under IC 9-19-11 **or a 3-point lap and shoulder safety belt under IC 9-19-13-5.5.**

(3) Is traveling in a commercial or a United States Postal Service vehicle that makes frequent stops for the purpose of pickup or delivery of goods or services.

(4) Is a rural carrier of the United States Postal Service and is operating a vehicle while serving a rural postal route.

(5) Is a newspaper motor route carrier or newspaper bundle hauler who stops to make deliveries from a vehicle.

(6) Is a driver examiner designated and appointed by the bureau and is conducting an examination of an applicant for a permit or license under IC 9-24-10.

(7) Is an occupant of a farm truck being used on a farm in connection with agricultural pursuits that are usual and normal to the farming operation.

(8) Is an occupant of a motor vehicle participating in a parade.

(9) Is an occupant of the living quarters area of a recreational vehicle.

(10) Is an occupant of the treatment area of an ambulance (as defined in IC 16-18-2-13).

(11) Is an occupant of the sleeping area of a tractor.



(12) Is an occupant other than the operator of a vehicle described in IC 9-20-11-1(1).

(13) Is an occupant other than the operator of a truck on a construction site.

(14) Is a passenger other than the operator in a cab of a recovery vehicle who is being transported in the cab because the vehicle of the passenger is being towed by the recovery vehicle.

(15) Is an occupant other than the operator of a motor vehicle being used by a public utility in an emergency as set forth in IC 9-20-6-5.

SECTION 6. IC 9-19-13-5.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: **Sec. 5.5. (a) An occupant of a school bus or special purpose bus that has a 3-point lap and shoulder safety belt installed at each seating location shall have the 3-point lap and shoulder safety belt properly fastened about the occupant's body at all times when the bus is in motion.**

(b) A:

(1) person operating a school bus or special purpose bus; and

(2) school corporation, public school, charter school, or nonpublic school;

are immune from civil or criminal liability for the failure of an occupant of a school bus or special purpose bus to properly fasten a 3-point lap and shoulder safety belt as required under subsection (a).

SECTION 7. IC 10-21-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.197-2019, SECTION 3, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.50-2019, SECTION 2, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.153-2019, SECTION 1, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.272-2019, SECTION 3, IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]:

Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana secured school fund is established to provide:

(1) matching grants to enable school corporations, ~~and~~ charter schools, *and accredited nonpublic schools* to establish programs under which a school corporation, ~~or~~ charter school, *or accredited nonpublic school* (or a coalition of schools) may:

~~(A)~~ (A) employ a school resource officer, *employ a law enforcement officer*, or enter into a contract or a memorandum of understanding with a:

~~(A)~~ (i) local law enforcement agency;

~~(B)~~ (ii) private entity; or

~~(C)~~ (iii) nonprofit corporation;

to employ a school resource officer *or a law enforcement*



- 1 officer;
- 2 ~~(2)~~ (B) conduct a threat assessment of the buildings within a
- 3 school corporation or *the buildings that are* operated by a
- 4 charter school *or accredited nonpublic school*; ~~or~~
- 5 ~~(3)~~ (C) purchase equipment and technology to:
- 6 ~~(A)~~ (i) restrict access to school property; or
- 7 ~~(B)~~ (ii) expedite notification of first responders; or
- 8 ~~(4)~~ (D) *implement a student and parent support services plan*
- 9 *as described in section ~~4(a)(5)~~ 4(a)(6) of this chapter*;
- 10 **(E) purchase or equip school buses and special purpose**
- 11 **buses with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts or other**
- 12 **safety equipment for buses that is proven to substantially**
- 13 **improve school bus safety, as determined by the state**
- 14 **school bus committee established by IC 20-27-3-1; and**
- 15 (2) *one (1) time grants to enable school corporations, charter*
- 16 *schools, and accredited nonpublic schools with the sheriff for the*
- 17 *county in which the school corporation, charter school, or*
- 18 *accredited nonpublic school is located, to provide the initial set*
- 19 *up costs for an active event warning system.*
- 20 (b) *A school corporation or charter school may use money received*
- 21 *under a matching grant for a purpose listed in subsection (a) to*
- 22 *provide a response to a threat in a manner that the school corporation*
- 23 *or charter school sees fit, including firearms training or other*
- 24 *self-defense training.*
- 25 ~~(b)~~ (c) The fund shall be administered by the department of
- 26 homeland security.
- 27 ~~(c)~~ (d) The fund consists of:
- 28 (1) appropriations from the general assembly;
- 29 (2) grants from the Indiana safe schools fund established by
- 30 IC 5-2-10.1-2;
- 31 (3) federal grants; and
- 32 (4) amounts deposited from any other public or private source.
- 33 ~~(d)~~ (e) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from
- 34 money in the fund.
- 35 ~~(e)~~ (f) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
- 36 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
- 37 manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues
- 38 from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.
- 39 ~~(f)~~ (g) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not
- 40 revert to the state general fund.

41 SECTION 8. IC 10-21-1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.197-2019,

42 SECTION 5, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.50-2019, SECTION 4,



1 AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.153-2019, SECTION 2, IS
 2 CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 4. (a) The board may award a
 4 matching grant to enable a school corporation, ~~or~~ charter school, *or*
 5 *accredited nonpublic school* (or a coalition of schools applying jointly)
 6 to:

- 7 (1) establish a program to employ a school resource officer;
- 8 ~~(2) employ a law enforcement officer;~~
- 9 ~~(2) (3)~~ provide school resource officer training described in
- 10 IC 20-26-18.2-1(b)(2);
- 11 ~~(3) (4)~~ conduct a threat assessment; ~~or~~
- 12 ~~(4) (5)~~ purchase equipment to restrict access to the school or
- 13 expedite the notification of first responders; *in accordance with*
- 14 *section 2(a) of this chapter; or*
- 15 ~~(5) (6)~~ implement a student and parent support services plan in
- 16 the manner set forth in IC 20-34-9; **or**
- 17 **(7) purchase or equip school buses and special purpose buses**
- 18 **with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts or other safety**
- 19 **equipment for buses that are proven to substantially improve**
- 20 **school bus safety, as determined by the state school bus**
- 21 **committee established by IC 20-27-3-1;**
- 22 *in accordance with section 2(a) of this chapter.*

23 (b) A matching grant awarded to a school corporation, ~~or~~ charter
 24 school, *or accredited nonpublic school* (or a coalition of schools
 25 applying jointly) may not exceed the lesser of the following during a
 26 two (2) year period beginning on or after May 1, 2013:

- 27 (1) The total cost of the program established by the school
- 28 corporation, ~~or~~ charter school, *or accredited nonpublic school* (or
- 29 the coalition of schools applying jointly).
- 30 (2) *Except as provided in subsection (d), the following amounts:*
- 31 ~~(A) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year, in the case of a~~
- 32 ~~school corporation, or charter school, or accredited~~
- 33 ~~nonpublic school that:~~
- 34 ~~(i) has an ADM of at least one thousand (1,000); and~~
- 35 ~~(ii) is not applying jointly with any other school~~
- 36 ~~corporation, or charter school, or accredited nonpublic~~
- 37 ~~school;~~
- 38 ~~(B) Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) per year, in the~~
- 39 ~~case of a school corporation, or charter school, or accredited~~
- 40 ~~nonpublic school that:~~
- 41 ~~(i) has an ADM of less than one thousand (1,000); and~~
- 42 ~~(ii) is not applying jointly with any other school~~



1 *corporation, or charter school, or accredited nonpublic*
 2 *school.*

3 *(C) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year, in the case of*
 4 *a coalition of schools applying jointly.*

5 *(A) Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) per year, in the*
 6 *case of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited*
 7 *nonpublic school that:*

8 *(i) has an ADM of at least one (1) and less than one*
 9 *thousand one (1,001) students; and*

10 *(ii) is not applying jointly with any other school*
 11 *corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic*
 12 *school.*

13 *(B) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year, in the case of a*
 14 *school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic*
 15 *school that:*

16 *(i) has an ADM of more than one thousand (1,000) and less*
 17 *than five thousand one (5,001) students; and*

18 *(ii) is not applying jointly with any other school*
 19 *corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic*
 20 *school.*

21 *(C) Seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) per year, in the*
 22 *case of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited*
 23 *nonpublic school that:*

24 *(i) has an ADM of more than five thousand (5,000) and less*
 25 *than fifteen thousand one (15,001) students; and*

26 *(ii) is not applying jointly with any other school*
 27 *corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic*
 28 *school.*

29 *(D) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year, in the*
 30 *case of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited*
 31 *nonpublic school that:*

32 *(i) has an ADM of more than fifteen thousand (15,000); and*

33 *(ii) is not applying jointly with any other school*
 34 *corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic*
 35 *school.*

36 *(E) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year, in the*
 37 *case of a coalition of schools applying jointly.*

38 *(c) Except as provided in subsection (d), the match requirement for*
 39 *a grant under this chapter is based on the ADM, as follows:*

40 *(1) For a school corporation, charter school, or accredited*
 41 *nonpublic school with an ADM of less than five hundred one*
 42 *(501) students, the grant match must be twenty-five percent (25%)*



1 of the grant amount described in subsection (b).

2 (2) For a school corporation, charter school, or accredited
3 nonpublic school with an ADM of more than five hundred (500)
4 and less than one thousand one (1,001) students, the grant match
5 must be fifty percent (50%) of the grant amount described in
6 subsection (b).

7 (3) For a school corporation, charter school, or accredited
8 nonpublic school with an ADM of more than one thousand
9 (1,000) students or a coalition of schools applying jointly, the
10 grant match must be one hundred percent (100%) of the grant
11 amount described in subsection (b).

12 (d) A school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic
13 school may be eligible to receive a grant of up to:

14 (1) one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) if:

15 (A) the school corporation, charter school, or accredited
16 nonpublic school receives a grant match of one hundred
17 percent (100%) of the requested grant amount; and

18 (B) the board approves the grant request; or

19 (2) for a school corporation, charter school, or accredited
20 nonpublic school described subsection (c)(1) or (c)(2), a grant of
21 up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) if:

22 (A) the school corporation, charter school, or accredited
23 nonpublic school receives a grant match of fifty percent (50%)
24 of the requested grant amount; and

25 (B) the board approves the grant request.

26 ~~(c)~~ (e) A school corporation, ~~or~~ charter school, or accredited
27 nonpublic school may receive only one (1) matching grant under this
28 section each year.

29 ~~(d)~~ (f) The board may not award a grant to a school corporation, ~~or~~
30 charter school, or accredited nonpublic school under this ~~chapter~~
31 section unless the school corporation, ~~or~~ charter school, or accredited
32 nonpublic school is in a county that has a county school safety
33 commission, as described in IC 5-2-10.1-10.

34 SECTION 9. IC 20-20-47 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
35 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
36 JULY 1, 2020]:

37 **Chapter 47. School Bus Safety Equipment Grant Fund**

38 **Sec. 1.** As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the school bus
39 safety equipment grant fund established by section 3 of this
40 chapter.

41 **Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "grant" refers to a grant from
42 the fund.



1 **Sec. 3. (a) The school bus safety equipment grant fund is**
 2 **established. The money in the fund shall be used to assist school**
 3 **corporations, including charter schools, in purchasing or equipping**
 4 **school buses and special purpose buses with 3-point lap and**
 5 **shoulder safety belts or other proven safety equipment, as**
 6 **determined by the state school bus committee established by**
 7 **IC 20-27-3-1.**

8 **(b) The department shall administer the fund.**

9 **(c) The fund consists of appropriations from the general**
 10 **assembly.**

11 **(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not**
 12 **revert to the state general fund.**

13 **(e) Money in the fund is continuously appropriated for the**
 14 **purposes of this chapter.**

15 **Sec. 4. (a) A governing body that seeks to purchase or equip a**
 16 **school bus or special purpose bus with 3-point lap and shoulder**
 17 **safety belts may apply to the department for a grant in an amount**
 18 **equal to fifty percent (50%) of the cost of purchasing or equipping**
 19 **the school bus or special purpose bus with 3-point lap and shoulder**
 20 **safety belts.**

21 **(b) If the state school bus committee determines that other**
 22 **safety equipment is proven to substantially improve school bus**
 23 **safety and recommends that school buses and special purpose**
 24 **buses be equipped with the safety equipment, a governing body**
 25 **that seeks to purchase or equip a school bus or special purpose bus**
 26 **with the recommended safety equipment may apply to the**
 27 **department for a grant in an amount equal to fifty percent (50%)**
 28 **of the cost of purchasing or equipping the school bus with the**
 29 **safety equipment.**

30 **Sec. 5. The department shall develop guidelines necessary to**
 31 **implement this chapter.**

32 **SECTION 10. IC 20-27-4-10 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA**
 33 **CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS**
 34 **[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 10. (a) This section applies to the**
 35 **purchase of a new school bus or new special purpose bus by a**
 36 **school corporation, including a charter school, after June 30, 2020.**

37 **(b) Whenever a school corporation, including a charter school,**
 38 **seeks to purchase a school bus or special purpose bus, the**
 39 **governing body must request information concerning the cost of**
 40 **purchasing a school bus or special purpose bus equipped with**
 41 **3-point lap and shoulder safety belts at each seating location.**

42 **(c) After receiving the information under subsection (b), the**



governing body shall hold a public meeting at which public testimony must be allowed to discuss the costs and benefits of purchasing a new school bus or special purpose bus with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts. After holding a public meeting under this subsection, the governing body shall decide by majority vote whether to purchase a school bus or special purpose bus that is equipped with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts.

(d) If a governing body decides to purchase a school bus or special purpose bus that is equipped with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts, the governing body may apply for a grant under IC 5-2-10.1-6, IC 10-21-1-4, or IC 20-20-47 to offset the additional cost of purchasing a school bus or special purpose bus equipped with 3-point lap and shoulder safety belts.

SECTION 11. IC 34-30-2-28.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: **Sec. 28.3. IC 9-19-13-5.5 (Concerning failure of an occupant on a school bus or special purpose bus to properly fasten a safety belt).**

