

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3791**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Manny Cruz*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to school bus safety.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Manny Cruz</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3791**

By Representative Cruz of Salem, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3791) of Manny Cruz and Vanna Howard relative to seatbelts on school buses. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to school bus safety.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 7B of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 Every school bus that is used for the transportation of school children to and from a  
4 public, charter, vocational, private or parochial school or in connection with school activities  
5 shall be equipped with seatbelts for each permanent seating accommodation on the school bus in  
6 compliance with applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. Any person or company  
7 contracting with or intending to contract with a school district or a charter, vocational, private or  
8 parochial school for the transportation of school children, shall file a notice with the department  
9 of elementary and secondary education affirming that all school buses, to be utilized in  
10 performance of the contract, are in compliance with this paragraph.

11 SECTION 2. Section 1 shall take effect 1 year after its passage; provided, however, that  
12 any person or company that is a party to a contract existing as of the effective date of section 1

13 with a school district or a charter, vocational, private or parochial school for the transportation of  
14 school children, shall notify the department of elementary and secondary education that its  
15 school buses are in compliance with section 7B of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as amended  
16 by section 1, as soon as compliance occurs and no later than the effective date of section 1.