

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 16, 2017

3 SENATE BILL NO. 344

By: Holt of the Senate

4 and

5 **Osburn (Mike), of the House**

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9 An Act relating to school buses; amending 47 O.S.  
10 2011, Section 11-705, which relates to meeting or  
11 overtaking stopped school bus; modifying penalty; and  
12 providing an effective date.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 11-705, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 11-705. A. The driver of a vehicle meeting or  
17 overtaking a school bus that is stopped to take on or discharge  
18 school children, and on which the red loading signals are in  
19 operation, is to stop the vehicle before it reaches the school bus  
20 and not proceed until the loading signals are deactivated and then  
21 proceed past such school bus at a speed which is reasonable and with  
22 due caution for the safety of such school children and other  
23 occupants. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this  
24

1 subsection shall be punished by a fine of not less than ~~One Hundred~~  
2 ~~Dollars (\$100.00)~~ Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00).

3 B. Visual signals, meeting the requirements of Section 12-228  
4 of this title, shall be actuated by the driver of ~~said~~ the school  
5 bus whenever, but only whenever, such vehicle is stopped on the  
6 highway for the purpose of receiving or discharging school children.

7 C. The driver of a vehicle upon a highway with separate  
8 roadways need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus which is  
9 on a different roadway or when upon a controlled-access highway and  
10 the school bus is stopped in a loading zone which is a part of or  
11 adjacent to such highway and where pedestrians are not permitted to  
12 cross the roadway.

13 D. If the driver of a school bus witnesses a violation of the  
14 provisions of subsection A of this section, within twenty-four (24)  
15 hours of the alleged offense, the driver shall report the violation,  
16 the vehicle color, license tag number, and the time and place such  
17 violation occurred to the law enforcement authority of the  
18 municipality where the violation occurred. The law enforcement  
19 authority of a municipality shall issue a letter of warning on the  
20 alleged violation to the person in whose name the vehicle is  
21 registered. The Office of the Attorney General shall provide a form  
22 letter to each municipal law enforcement agency in this state for  
23 the issuance of the warning provided for in this subsection. Such  
24 form letter shall be used by each such law enforcement agency in the

1 exact form provided for by the Office of the Attorney General. A  
2 warning letter issued pursuant to this subsection shall not be  
3 recorded on the driving record of the person to whom such letter was  
4 issued. Issuance of a warning letter pursuant to this section shall  
5 not preclude the imposition of other penalties as provided by law.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

7 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY  
8 February 16, 2017 - DO PASS  
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