

SENATE BILL 245

By Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49
and Title 55, relative to school bus drivers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-50-302(d), is amended by deleting subdivision (1) and substituting instead the following:

- (A) The applicant is at least twenty-five (25) years of age; or
- (B) The applicant is at least twenty-three (23) years of age and:
 - (i) An honorably discharged veteran of the United States armed forces;
 - (ii) A member of the national guard or a reserve component of the United States armed forces; or
 - (iii) A licensed teacher employed by an LEA;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-50-302, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection (e) and redesignating the existing language of subsection (e) and all subsequent subsections accordingly:

An applicant for an initial school bus endorsement pursuant to subdivision (d)(1)(B) must submit to the department, as part of the application:

- (1) A certified copy of the applicant's certificate of release or discharge from active duty, department of defense form 214 (DD 214), if the applicant is an honorably discharged veteran of the United States armed forces; or
- (2) A letter recommending the applicant to operate a school bus, from:
 - (A) One (1) of the applicant's commanding officers, if the applicant is a member of the national guard or a reserve component of the United States armed forces; or

(B) The director of schools of the LEA that employs the applicant,
if the applicant is a licensed teacher.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it.