

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2160

To improve the safety of school buses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2017

Mr. CRIST introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To improve the safety of school buses, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Best to Use Safety
5 Belts Act of 2017” or the “BUS Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. SEAT BELT REQUIREMENT FOR SCHOOL BUSES.**

7 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Section 30125 of title 49,
8 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
9 following:

1 “(d) SEAT BELTS REQUIRED.—A person may not
2 manufacture for sale, sell, offer for sale, introduce or de-
3 liver for introduction in interstate commerce, or import
4 into the United States a schoolbus that is not equipped
5 with a seat belt that includes both lap and shoulder belts
6 for each intended passenger. A violation of this subsection
7 shall be treated as a violation of a motor vehicle safety
8 standard prescribed under section 30111 of this sub-
9 chapter.”.

10 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
11 subsection (a) shall take effect 90 days after the date of
12 enactment of this Act.

13 **SEC. 3. SCHOOL BUS SAFETY UPGRADES GRANT PROGRAM.**

14 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after
15 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-
16 portation shall establish a program to provide school buses
17 with seat belts and other safety features.

18 (b) GRANT AUTHORITY AND ELIGIBLE RECIPI-
19 ENTS.—In carrying out the program established under
20 subsection (a), the Secretary may make a grant, on a com-
21 petitive basis, to a State educational agency and a local
22 educational agency (as such terms are defined in section
23 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
24 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801)).

1 (c) GRANT USES.—A recipient of a grant made under
2 subsection (b) may use grant funds only to—

3 (1) retrofit a school bus with seat belts; or

4 (2) make another safety upgrade to a school
5 bus that demonstrably decreases the risk of injury or
6 death to students in the event of an impact or roll-
7 over, including an upgrade designed to prevent a
8 rollover.

9 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
10 authorized to be appropriated to carry out the program
11 established under subsection (a) \$3,000,000,000.

12 (e) TERMINATION.—The program established under
13 subsection (a) shall terminate on the date that is 2 years
14 after the date on which the program is established.

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