

1 H.196

2 Introduced by Representatives Masland of Thetford, Burke of Brattleboro,
3 Buxton of Tunbridge, Cheney of Norwich, Christie of Hartford,
4 McCullough of Williston, Stevens of Shoreham, and Zagar of
5 Barnard

6 Referred to Committee on

7 Date:

8 Subject: Motor vehicles; Type II school bus; auxiliary fuel tanks; pilot
9 program

10 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish a
11 two-year pilot program to authorize up to three persons to operate lawfully on
12 Vermont highways a Type II school bus that has been retrofitted with an
13 auxiliary fuel tank to enable the use of biodiesel, waste vegetable oil, or
14 straight vegetable oil.

15 An act relating to a school bus alternative fuel pilot program

16 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

17 Sec. 1. SCHOOL BUS PILOT PROGRAM

18 (a) Definitions. As used in this section, the term “person” shall have the
19 meaning stated at 1 V.S.A. § 128, and the term “Type II school bus” shall have
20 the meaning stated at 23 V.S.A. § 4(34)(C).

1 (b) Pilot program. Upon application, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
2 shall approve up to three persons who satisfy the requirements of this
3 subsection to participate in a pilot program. Pilot program participants shall be
4 authorized to operate on Vermont highways Type II school buses registered in
5 this state that are retrofitted with an auxiliary fuel tank to enable the use of
6 biodiesel, waste vegetable oil, or straight vegetable oil. The Commissioner
7 shall prescribe that applicants furnish information sufficient to establish that
8 the auxiliary fuel tank will not cause a safety hazard, and any other information
9 necessary to implement the pilot program. After an applicant furnishes such
10 information and is approved, the Commissioner shall provide the person
11 documentation of the person's selection under the pilot program and the
12 expiration date of the program. If the approved person is a municipality or
13 another legal entity, the Commissioner's documentation shall list the specific
14 individuals authorized to operate the Type II school bus. The Commissioner's
15 documentation shall:

- 16 (1) be carried in the school bus while it is operated on a highway;
17 (2) constitute and be recognized by enforcement officers in Vermont as
18 a waiver, until expiration of the pilot program, of the provisions of 23 V.S.A.
19 §§ 4(37), 1221, and 1283(a)(6) and of any rule prohibiting school buses
20 retrofitted with auxiliary fuel tanks from lawfully operating on Vermont
21 highways; and

1 (3) be recognized by authorized inspection stations as a waiver of
2 inspection standards with regard to auxiliary fuel tanks.

3 (c) Expiration. The pilot program established and the waivers granted
4 under this section shall expire two years after the effective date of this act.

5 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on passage.