

2018 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 2

SEAT BELTS IN SCHOOL BUSES

WHEREAS, children are generally safe in school buses in most routine school bus travel due to the low rate of speed, bus size, compartmentalization of seats, lights and bright bus coloring;

WHEREAS, safety studies have shown that children are at a significant risk for injuries in side impact and roll over bus crashes due to children being thrown out of their seats;

WHEREAS, though school buses are statistically safer for transporting children than passenger cars, an average of five children die every year nationwide in school bus accidents;

WHEREAS, six states have required mandatory three-point shoulder/seat belts in school buses and other states are considering such legislation;

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration has recommended, but has not required, three-point shoulder/seat belts in school buses;

WHEREAS, behavior management of children on school buses increases with children being seated with three-point shoulder/seat belts;

WHEREAS, the cost of new school buses increases with three-point shoulder/ seat belts; and

WHEREAS, there may be a need for additional buses due to the potential for a reduced number of children that belted buses can carry;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho Legislature appoint an interim committee to make recommendations on the use of three-point shoulder/seat belts in school buses. This committee would also discuss the amount of appropriate funding to facilitate their use.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

That the Idaho Legislature appoint an interim committee to begin discussions and make recommendations about the feasibility of the use of three-point shoulder/seat belts in school buses. This committee would also discuss the amount of and provide the appropriate funding and state policies to facilitate their use.

Submitted by Coeur d'Alene School District No. 271

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: NONE

Susan Rigg of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

PASSED
TABLED
FAILED

AYES
NAYES
TOTAL