

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

SENATE BILL 1151

**48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

INTRODUCED BY

Michael S. Sanchez

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; ADDRESSING YOUNG SCHOOL-AGE PERSONS  
LEFT UNATTENDED AT A SCHOOL BUS STOP.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 22-16-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,  
Chapter 35, Section 469, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-16-11. [~~REGULATIONS~~] RULES RELATIVE TO SCHOOL BUSES--  
UNATTENDED STUDENTS.--

A. The state transportation director [~~appointed as~~  
~~provided in Section 22-16-1 NMSA 1978~~] shall adopt and enforce  
[~~regulations~~] rules adopted by the [~~state board~~] department not  
inconsistent with the Motor Vehicle Code to govern the design  
and operation of all school buses, used for the transportation  
of school children, when owned and operated by any school  
district or privately owned and operated under contract with

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 any school district in this state, and the [~~regulations~~] rules  
2 shall by reference be made a part of any such contract with a  
3 school district. Every school district, its officers and  
4 employees and every person employed under contract by a school  
5 district shall be subject to the [~~regulations~~] rules.

6 B. Any officer or employee of any school district  
7 who violates any of the [~~regulations~~] rules or fails to include  
8 obligation to comply with the [~~regulations~~] rules in any  
9 contract executed by [~~him~~] the officer or employee on behalf of  
10 a school district is guilty of misconduct and subject to  
11 removal from office or employment. Any person operating a  
12 school bus, under contract with a school district, who fails to  
13 comply with any of the [~~regulations~~] rules is guilty of breach  
14 of contract, and the contract may be canceled after notice and  
15 hearing by the state transportation director acting in  
16 conjunction with the responsible officers of the school  
17 district.

18 C. The department shall promulgate a rule requiring  
19 school districts to adopt a policy that prohibits a driver of a  
20 school bus from leaving a student eight years of age or younger  
21 unattended at a school bus stop, unless the student's parent or  
22 legal guardian has provided the school district with written  
23 consent that the student may be left unattended.

24 [~~G.~~] D. Any driver of a school bus who fails to  
25 comply with any of the [~~regulations~~] rules is guilty of a

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

misdemeanor."

- 3 -

.167624.1