

By Senator Miller

21-1515-02

See HB 611

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to bus drivers; amending s. 316.615, F.S.; requiring school districts to check the driving records of all bus drivers for suspended or revoked drivers' licenses; providing penalties; amending s. 316.70, F.S.; requiring the driving records of non-public-sector bus drivers to be checked for suspended or revoked licenses; providing penalties; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 316.615, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.615 School buses; ~~physical~~ requirements of drivers.--

(3)(a) A person may not operate or cause to be operated a motor vehicle covered by subsection (1) or subsection (2) when transporting school children unless the operator has met the physical examination requirements established by law and by rule adopted by the Commissioner of Education. The operator of such a motor vehicle shall pass an annual physical examination and have posted in the vehicle a certificate to drive the vehicle.

(b) Each school district shall check the driving records of all school bus drivers at least once each year to ascertain whether the driver has a suspended or revoked drivers' license. The Commissioner of Education may assess a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 with respect to each failure of

1 a school district to comply with the provisions of this  
2 subsection.

3 Section 2. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (1) of  
4 section 316.70, Florida Statutes, to read:

5 316.70 Nonpublic sector buses; safety rules.--

6 (1) The Department of Transportation shall establish  
7 and revise standards to assure the safe operation of nonpublic  
8 sector buses, as defined in s. 316.003(78), which standards  
9 shall be those contained in 49 C.F.R. parts 382, 385, and  
10 390-397 and which shall be directed towards assuring that:

11 (d) The driving records of drivers of  
12 non-public-sector buses are checked by their employers at  
13 least once each year to ascertain whether the driver has a  
14 suspended or revoked drivers' license.

15 (2) The Department of Transportation may assess a  
16 civil penalty of up to \$5,000 per infraction against any  
17 person who violates any provision of this section or who  
18 violates any rule or order of the department.

19 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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22 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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24 Requires school districts with respect to school bus  
25 drivers and employers with respect to nonpublic sector  
26 bus drivers to check the driving records of all bus  
27 drivers once each year to ascertain whether the driver  
28 has a suspended or revoked license. Provides penalties.  
29 (See bill for details.)  
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