

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to school buses; amending s. 316.6145,  
 3           F.S.; removing requirement that school buses be equipped  
 4           with safety belts or other restraint systems; providing an  
 5           effective date.

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

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 9           Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 316.6145, Florida  
 10          Statutes, is amended to read:

11           316.6145 School buses; safety belt ~~belts~~ or other  
 12          restraint system requirements ~~systems required~~--

13           ~~(1)(a) Each school bus that is purchased new after~~  
 14          ~~December 31, 2000, and used to transport students in grades pre-~~  
 15          ~~K through 12 must be equipped with safety belts or with any~~  
 16          ~~other restraint system approved by the Federal Government in a~~  
 17          ~~number sufficient to allow each student who is being transported~~  
 18          ~~to use a separate safety belt or restraint system. These safety~~  
 19          ~~belts must meet the standards required under s. 316.614. A~~  
 20          ~~school bus that was purchased prior to December 31, 2000, is not~~  
 21          ~~required to be equipped with safety belts.~~

22           ~~(b)~~ As used in this section, "school bus" means a school  
 23          bus that is owned, leased, operated, or contracted by a school  
 24          district.

25           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.