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A bill to be entitled  
 An act relating to school bus safety; creating the Diana Kautz Student Safety Sponsors Act; creating s. 1006.273, F.S.; providing for district school boards to adopt policies for private sponsorship of described seat belt assemblies on school buses; providing for a sponsorship fee; providing for use of moneys collected; providing for signage on the exterior of the school bus acknowledging sponsorship; providing for design, placement, and size of the signage by rule of the State Board of Education; limiting liability of sponsors; amending s. 1006.25, F.S.; requiring sponsor signs to be covered when school buses are transporting passengers who are not school students; revising requirement that students use crash protection system on school bus; amending s. 1006.261, F.S.; requiring sponsor signs to be covered when school buses are used for nonschool purposes; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Diana Kautz Student Safety Sponsors Act."

Section 2. Section 1006.273, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1006.273 Crash protection systems; sponsorship.--The district school board may adopt policies providing for private

28 sponsorship of the installation of crash protection equipment on  
29 school buses pursuant to the provisions of this section.

30 (1)(a) Any person or business entity may sponsor the  
31 installation of seat belt assemblies as described in subsection  
32 (3) on a school bus by paying a fee of \$10,000 per bus to be  
33 sponsored. Proceeds from the collection of the fee shall be  
34 distributed as follows:

35 1. Up to 5 percent may be used to pay the cost of an  
36 advertising agent involved with the transaction.

37 2. Up to 45 percent shall be used to pay for the cost of  
38 the seat belt assemblies and the cost of installation.

39 3. The remaining funds shall be remitted to the state for  
40 deposit into the General Revenue Fund to be used for  
41 transportation purposes.

42 (b) There may be only one business entity sponsor per  
43 school bus. Sponsorships or cosponsorships by individuals shall  
44 be as provided by district school board policy.

45 (2)(a) Upon request by the sponsor, the district school  
46 board shall place signage on the exterior of the school bus  
47 acknowledging the sponsor and, if the sponsor is a business  
48 entity, bearing the logo of the business entity. However, no  
49 sponsor shall be required to have his or her name or the name of  
50 the business entity placed on the school bus.

51 (b) The acknowledgment shall bear the wording "Safety  
52 belts sponsored by" followed by the name of the sponsor.

53 (c) The design, placement, and size of the signage shall  
54 be as prescribed by rule of the State Board of Education.

55       (3) The school bus must be equipped with a seat belt  
 56 assembly that meets the requirements for type 2 seat belt  
 57 assemblies established under Federal Motor Vehicle Safety  
 58 Standard No. 209, 49 C.F.R. s. 571.209, or with any other pelvic  
 59 and upper torso restraint system approved by the Federal  
 60 Government in a number sufficient to allow each student who is  
 61 being transported to use a separate pelvic and upper torso  
 62 restraint system.

63       (4) District school board policy under this section shall  
 64 provide for sponsorship of the seat belt assembly installation  
 65 on new purchases of school buses or for upgrade of crash  
 66 protection systems on existing school buses to meet the seat  
 67 belt assembly requirements of subsection (3).

68       (5) Sponsorship under this section shall not impose or  
 69 imply any duty or responsibility on the sponsor for installation  
 70 or use of any seat belt assembly on any school bus; and, in any  
 71 action relating to the installation, use, disuse, or misuse of  
 72 any seat belt assembly on a school bus, no liability shall  
 73 accrue to any person or business entity because that person or  
 74 entity is a sponsor of seat belt assemblies under this section.

75       Section 3. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 1006.25,  
 76 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

77       1006.25 School buses.--School buses shall be defined and  
 78 meet specifications as follows:

79       (3) STANDARDS FOR LEASED VEHICLES.--A motor vehicle owned  
 80 and operated by a county or municipal transit authority that is  
 81 leased by the district school board for transportation of public  
 82 school students must meet such standards as the State Board of

83 Education establishes by rule. A school bus authorized by a  
84 district school board to carry passengers other than school  
85 students must have the words "School Bus" and any other signs  
86 and insignia that mark or designate it as a school bus and any  
87 sign of sponsorship under s. 1006.273 covered, removed, or  
88 otherwise concealed while such passengers are being transported.

89 (4) OCCUPANT PROTECTION SYSTEMS.--Students may be  
90 transported only in designated seating positions, except as  
91 provided in s. 1006.22(12), and must use the occupant crash  
92 protection system installed in the vehicle ~~provided by the~~  
93 ~~manufacturer~~, which system must comply with the requirements of  
94 49 C.F.R. part 571 or with specifications of the State Board of  
95 Education.

96 Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 1006.261, Florida  
97 Statutes, is amended to read:

98 1006.261 Use of school buses for public purposes.--

99 (3) When the buses are used for nonschool purposes other  
100 than the transportation of the transportation disadvantaged, the  
101 flashing red lights and white strobe lights shall not be used,  
102 and the "School Bus" inscriptions on the front and rear of the  
103 buses and any sign of sponsorship under s. 1006.273 shall be  
104 covered or concealed.

105 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.