By the Committee on Education; and Senator Wise

581-1780-06

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to school bus safety; creating
3	the Diana Kautz Student Safety Sponsors Act;
4	creating s. 1006.273, F.S.; providing for
5	district school boards to adopt policies for
6	private sponsorship of described seat belt
7	assemblies on school buses; providing for a
8	sponsorship fee; providing for use of moneys
9	collected; providing for signage on the
10	exterior of the school bus acknowledging
11	sponsorship; providing for the design and size
12	of the signage by district school boards;
13	limiting liability of sponsors; amending s.
14	1006.25, F.S.; requiring sponsor signs to be
15	covered when school buses are transporting
16	passengers who are not school students;
17	revising the requirement that students use a
18	crash-protection system on a school bus;
19	amending s. 1006.261, F.S.; requiring sponsor
20	signs to be covered when school buses are used
21	for nonschool purposes; providing an effective
22	date.
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24	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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26	Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Diana Kautz
27	Student Safety Sponsors Act."
28	Section 2. Section 1006.273, Florida Statutes, is
29	created to read:
30	1006.273 Crash-protection systems; sponsorshipThe
31	district school board may adopt policies providing for private

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1	sponsorship of the installation of crash-protection equipment
2	on school buses pursuant to the provisions of this section.
3	(1)(a) Any person or business entity may sponsor the
4	installation of seat belt assemblies as described in
5	subsection (3) on a school bus by paying a sponsorship fee as
6	prescribed by the district school board. Proceeds from the
7	collection of the fee shall be distributed as follows:
8	1. Up to 5 percent may be used to pay the cost of an
9	advertising agent involved with the transaction.
10	2. Up to 45 percent shall be used to pay for the cost
11	of the seat belt assemblies and the cost of installation.
12	3. The remaining funds shall be remitted for deposit
13	into the General Revenue Fund to be used for transportation
14	purposes.
15	(b) There may be up to four business entity sponsors
16	per school bus. Sponsorships or cosponsorships by individuals
17	shall be as provided by the district school board.
18	(2)(a) Upon request by the sponsor, the district
19	school board shall place signage on the exterior rear,
20	lower-quarter panels of the school bus acknowledging the
21	sponsor and, if the sponsor is a business entity, bearing the
22	logo of the business entity. However, a sponsor may not be
23	required to have his or her name or the name of the business
24	entity placed on the school bus.
25	(b) The acknowledgment shall bear the wording "Safety
26	belts sponsored by " followed by the name of the sponsor.
27	(c) The design and size of the signage shall be as
28	prescribed by the district school board.
29	(3) The school bus must be equipped with a seat belt
30	assembly that meets the requirements for type 2 seat belt

31 assemblies established under Federal Motor Vehicle Safety

Standard No. 209, 49 C.F.R. s. 571.209, or with any other 2 pelvic and upper-torso restraint system approved by the Federal Government in a number sufficient to allow each 3 4 student who is being transported to use a separate pelvic and 5 upper-torso restraint system. 6 (4) The district school board shall provide for 7 sponsorship of the seat belt assembly installation on new 8 purchases of school buses. 9 (5) Sponsorship under this section does not impose or 10 imply any duty or responsibility on the sponsor for installation or use of any seat belt assembly on any school 11 12 bus; and, in any action relating to the installation, use, disuse, or misuse of any seat belt assembly on a school bus, 13 liability does not accrue to any person or business entity 14 because that person or entity is a sponsor of seat belt 15 assemblies under this section. Such sponsor may not be named 16 on the jury verdict form and may not be deemed or found to be 18 in any way at fault or responsible for the injury, death, or damage that gave rise to the action. 19 Section 3. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 1006.25, 20 21 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 22 1006.25 School buses.--School buses shall be defined 23 and meet specifications as follows: (3) STANDARDS FOR LEASED VEHICLES. -- A motor vehicle 2.4 2.5 owned and operated by a county or municipal transit authority 26 that is leased by the district school board for transportation 27 of public school students must meet such standards as the 2.8 State Board of Education establishes by rule. A school bus 29 authorized by a district school board to carry passengers

other than school students must have the words "School Bus"

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1	a school bus and any sign of sponsorship under s. 1006.273
2	covered, removed, or otherwise concealed while such passengers
3	are being transported.
4	(4) OCCUPANT PROTECTION SYSTEMS Students may be
5	transported only in designated seating positions, except as
6	provided in s. 1006.22(12), and must use the occupant crash
7	protection system <u>installed</u> in the vehicle provided by the
8	manufacturer, which system must comply with the requirements
9	of 49 C.F.R. part 571 or with specifications of the State
10	Board of Education.
11	Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 1006.261, Florida
12	Statutes, is amended to read:
13	1006.261 Use of school buses for public purposes
14	(3) When the buses are used for nonschool purposes
15	other than the transportation of the transportation
16	disadvantaged, the flashing red lights and white strobe lights
17	shall not be used, and the "School Bus" inscriptions on the
18	front and rear of the buses and any sign of sponsorship under
19	s. 1006.273 shall be covered or concealed.
20	Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.
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22	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
23	Senate Bill 622
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25	This committee substitute expands sponsor immunity from
26	liability to prohibit a sponsor from being named on a jury verdict form, deemed, or found to be at fault or responsible in any action relating to seat belt assembly on a school bus.
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