

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to school bus safety; creating the "Diana  
 3           Kautz Student Safety Sponsors Act"; creating s. 1006.273,  
 4           F.S.; providing for district school boards to adopt  
 5           policies for private sponsorship of described seat belt  
 6           assemblies on school buses; providing for a sponsorship  
 7           fee; providing for use of moneys collected; providing for  
 8           signage on the exterior of the school bus acknowledging  
 9           sponsorship; providing for design and size of the signage  
 10          by local school board policy; limiting the liability of  
 11          sponsors; amending s. 1006.25, F.S.; requiring sponsor  
 12          signs to be covered when school buses are transporting  
 13          passengers who are not school students; revising the  
 14          requirement that students use the crash protection system  
 15          on a school bus; amending s. 1006.261, F.S.; requiring  
 16          sponsor signs to be covered when school buses are used for  
 17          nonschool purposes; providing an effective date.

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

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

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

25           1006.273   Crash protection systems; sponsorship.--A  
 26           district school board may adopt policies providing for private  
 27           sponsorship of the installation of crash protection equipment on  
 28           school buses pursuant to the provisions of this section.

29       (1) (a) Any person or business entity may sponsor the  
30 installation of seat belt assemblies as described in subsection  
31 (3) on a school bus by paying a sponsorship fee as prescribed by  
32 local school board policy. Proceeds from the collection of the  
33 fee shall be distributed as follows:

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

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

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

41       (b) There may be up to four business entity sponsors per  
42 school bus. Sponsorships or cosponsorships by individuals shall  
43 be as provided by district school board policy.

44       (2) (a) Upon request by the sponsor, the district school  
45 board shall place signage on the exterior rear, lower-quarter  
46 panels of the school bus acknowledging the sponsor and, if the  
47 sponsor is a business entity, bearing the logo of the business  
48 entity. However, no sponsor shall be required to have his or her  
49 name or the name of the business entity placed on the school  
50 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 and size of the signage shall be as  
54 prescribed by local school board policy.

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) Sponsorship under this section shall not impose or  
 64 imply any duty or responsibility on the sponsor for installation  
 65 or use of any seat belt assembly on any school bus, and, in any  
 66 action relating to the installation, use, disuse, or misuse of  
 67 any seat belt assembly on a school bus, no liability shall  
 68 accrue to any person or business entity because that person or  
 69 entity is a sponsor of seat belt assemblies under this section.

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

72 1006.25 School buses.--School buses shall be defined and  
 73 meet specifications as follows:

74 (3) STANDARDS FOR LEASED VEHICLES.--A motor vehicle owned  
 75 and operated by a county or municipal transit authority that is  
 76 leased by the district school board for transportation of public  
 77 school students must meet such standards as the State Board of  
 78 Education establishes by rule. A school bus authorized by a  
 79 district school board to carry passengers other than school  
 80 students must have the words "School Bus" and any other signs  
 81 and insignia that mark or designate it as a school bus and any  
 82 sign of sponsorship under s. 1006.273 covered, removed, or  
 83 otherwise concealed while such passengers are being transported.

84 (4) OCCUPANT PROTECTION SYSTEMS.--Students may be

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85 transported only in designated seating positions, except as  
86 provided in s. 1006.22(12), and must use the occupant crash  
87 protection system installed in the vehicle ~~provided by the~~  
88 ~~manufacturer~~, which system must comply with the requirements of  
89 49 C.F.R. part 571 or with specifications of the State Board of  
90 Education.

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

93 1006.261 Use of school buses for public purposes.--

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

100 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.