

House Bill 51 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Pirkle of the 169th and Corbett of the 174th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 22 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to school buses, so as to authorize local boards of education to use vehicles other
3 than school buses for the transport of all students to and from school and school related
4 activities; to revise provisions authorizing and requiring local boards of education to provide
5 for accident insurance for students traveling on school buses and other vehicles to and from
6 school and school related activities; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;
7 and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Article 22 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
11 school buses, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-1076, relating to alternative vehicles
12 for school buses, limitations on use, requirements, and insurance, as follows:

13 "20-2-1076.

14 (a) Local boards of education may authorize the use of vehicles other than school buses
15 for the transport of students ~~who are documented in an Individualized Education Program~~
16 ~~as recipients of special education services or as currently lacking, or during the previous~~

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17 ~~academic year lacked, a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as described under~~
18 ~~the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 11301, et seq., to and~~
19 from school and school related activities, where appropriate. Such vehicles may include
20 motor vehicles with a capacity of eight persons or less operated and marked for the
21 transportation of school children to and from school and school related activities.

22 (b) Local boards shall comply with all requirements established by the State Board of
23 Education pursuant to Code Section 20-2-188, including minimum standards and
24 requirements, which shall be delineated separately from requirements for school buses; for
25 maintenance, repair, inspection, and use of such vehicles; minimum qualifications for the
26 drivers of such vehicles; and other requirements as deemed necessary by the State Board
27 of Education. Local boards may establish requirements in addition to such minimum state
28 requirements, in the discretion of the local board.

29 (c) Local boards are authorized and required to cause policies of insurance to be issued
30 insuring the students being transported to and from school and school related activities
31 against bodily injury or death at any time resulting from an accident or collision in which
32 such vehicles are involved. The amount of such insurance shall be within the discretion
33 of each local board of education."

34 **SECTION 2.**

35 Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 20-2-1090, relating to accident
36 insurance for children on school buses, as follows:

37 "20-2-1090.

38 The various school boards of the counties, cities, and independent school systems
39 employing school buses are authorized and required to cause policies of insurance to be
40 issued insuring the school children riding therein to and from school and school related
41 activities against bodily injury or death at any time resulting from an accident or collision

42 in which such buses are involved. The amount of such insurance shall be within the
43 discretion of the respective boards."

44 **SECTION 3.**

45 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.