

# HOUSE BILL No. 5363

September 15, 2009, Introduced by Reps. Haines, Terry Brown, Kowall, Wayne Schmidt, Genetski, Agema, Ball, McMillin, Haveman, DeShazor, Lori, Moss, Knollenberg, Meekhof, Espinoza, Hansen, Hammel, LeBlanc, Sheltroun and McDowell and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

A bill to amend 1990 PA 187, entitled  
"The pupil transportation act,"  
by amending sections 51 and 53 (MCL 257.1851 and 257.1853), as  
amended by 2006 PA 108.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Sec. 51. (1) A driver of a school bus transporting passengers  
2 shall have in his or her possession a certificate stating that he  
3 or she has enrolled in the entry level school bus safety education  
4 course or has successfully completed a course in school bus safety  
5 education within the immediately preceding 2 years. The entry level  
6 course shall be available to the school bus driver within 90 days  
7 of enrollment. ~~Enrollment~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS**  
8 **SUBSECTION, ENROLLMENT** certificates shall expire 10 days after the

1 end of the entry level course in which the driver is enrolled. A  
2 second enrollment certificate shall not be issued. **IF A PERSON**  
3 **COMPLETES THE ENTRY LEVEL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY EDUCATION COURSE AFTER**  
4 **JUNE 30 OF ANY GIVEN YEAR AND BEFORE COMPLETING THE SUBSEQUENT 6-**  
5 **HOUR CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE, THE DURATION OF THE ENTRY LEVEL**  
6 **CERTIFICATE MAY BE EXTENDED TO THE COMPLETION OF THE NEXT AVAILABLE**  
7 **SUBSEQUENT 6-HOUR CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE.** The entry level  
8 course and subsequent 6-hour continuing education course shall be  
9 approved by the superintendent of public instruction and shall be  
10 provided by an approved educational agency. The certificate of  
11 successful completion of each course shall be prescribed by the  
12 superintendent of public instruction and successfully completed by  
13 an instructor of the course. Failure to successfully complete the  
14 entry level course or to complete the 6-hour continuing education  
15 course within 2 years after certification of successful completion  
16 of a prior course shall be reported by the instructional agency to  
17 the department of education and to the school which employs the  
18 driver. A driver who fails to successfully complete the entry level  
19 course within 90 days after enrollment or to meet the continuing  
20 education requirements shall not be permitted to drive a school bus  
21 transporting passengers.

22 (2) The person or persons in charge of school bus operations  
23 at a school shall have, at a minimum, successfully completed the  
24 beginning school bus driver training program in his or her first  
25 year serving as the person or persons in charge of the operation.  
26 The person or persons in charge of school bus operations at a  
27 school shall successfully complete 6 hours of supervisory

1 continuing education every 2 years after the successful completion  
2 of the beginning school bus driver training program. The continuing  
3 education course or courses shall be approved by the superintendent  
4 of public instruction and shall be provided by an approved  
5 educational agency.

6 (3) The cost of any course instruction and the base rate of  
7 compensation of the driver shall be reimbursed by the state on an  
8 equal basis for public and nonpublic schools as provided for by the  
9 department of education. Attendance by a person at an entry level  
10 course, a continuing education course, or an on-road driver skills  
11 test as required by this section or section 52 shall be considered  
12 compensable work time by the school and the person shall be paid at  
13 not less than their base rate as determined by their individual  
14 contract of employment or their contractual rate as negotiated  
15 between the school and the person's collective bargaining  
16 representative.

17 (4) The legislature shall appropriate the funds necessary to  
18 implement this section.

19 Sec. 53. (1) A driver of a school bus shall, at a minimum,  
20 meet the following qualifications:

21 (a) The requirements of sections 49 and 51.

22 ~~—— (b) For a school bus operating in intrastate transportation,~~  
23 ~~the annual physical requirements for school bus drivers as~~  
24 ~~authorized by the superintendent of public instruction. In meeting~~  
25 ~~these physical requirements, the driver shall be examined by a~~  
26 ~~licensed physician, physicians' assistant, or certified nurse~~  
27 ~~practitioner and shall present the medical certificate to the~~

1 ~~employer.~~

2 (B) THE REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE THAT A PERSON IS QUALIFIED TO  
3 OPERATE A SCHOOL BUS FOUND IN 49 CFR 391.41 THROUGH 391.49,  
4 INCLUDING THE APPENDICES OF EACH PART, EXCEPT THAT THE REQUIREMENT  
5 OF 49 CFR 391.41(B) (3) DOES NOT APPLY IF DIABETES IS NOTED AT THE  
6 TIME OF EXAMINATION AND IS STABILIZED AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION  
7 (C) .

8 (C) A DRIVER WHO IS DIABETIC MAY BE QUALIFIED FOR 1 YEAR IF  
9 THE DRIVER'S HEMOGLOBIN A1C LEVEL IS LESS THAN 8, THE DRIVER IS  
10 UNDER MEDICAL SUPERVISION, AND THE DIABETIC CONDITION IS STABILIZED  
11 BY THE USE OF INSULIN, HYPOGLYCEMIC DRUGS, OR A DIET THAT CAN BE  
12 OBTAINED WHILE A DRIVER IS ON DUTY. IF THE HEMOGLOBIN A1C LEVEL IS  
13 8 OR GREATER AND LESS THAN 9, THE DRIVER MAY BE CERTIFIED FOR 6  
14 MONTHS. IF THE HEMOGLOBIN A1C LEVEL IS 9 OR ABOVE, THE DRIVER SHALL  
15 NOT BE CERTIFIED. QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED UNDER THIS  
16 SUBDIVISION SHALL BE ISSUED A BLUE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MEDICAL  
17 CARD, AND ALL OTHER INDIVIDUALS SHALL BE ISSUED A WHITE FEDERAL  
18 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MEDICAL CARD.

19 (D) ~~(e)~~ An employer who has reason to believe that a driver is  
20 not physically qualified to drive may require a physical  
21 examination for that driver ~~in accordance with subdivision (b)~~ at  
22 more frequent intervals. If an employer requests a physical  
23 examination under this subdivision, the employer shall indicate in  
24 writing what physical impairment ~~covered under the requirements of~~  
25 ~~subdivision (b)~~ the driver is to be examined for and shall only be  
26 entitled to that portion of the examination results that pertain to  
27 that impairment. An examination requested by the employer under

1 this subdivision shall be paid for by the employer.

2 (E) ~~(d)~~—A copy of the medical certificate for a driver shall  
3 be carried by that driver while he or she is operating a school  
4 bus.

5 (2) A record of each employed school bus driver, including a  
6 copy of his or her medical certificate, department of education  
7 certification, driver license, certificate of road test application  
8 for employment, and any other information that relates to driver  
9 qualification or ability to safely drive a school bus, shall be  
10 maintained in the employer's administrative office.

11 (3) A school shall submit transportation safety related  
12 documents, such as driver qualification records, and vehicle  
13 maintenance records upon request for inspection and copying to  
14 motor carrier officers or vehicle safety inspectors of the  
15 department of state police.

16 (4) Upon receipt of an application from a person for the  
17 position of school bus driver, a school shall request from the  
18 department of state police a background check to determine whether  
19 the person was convicted of any of the following offenses:

20 (a) Criminal sexual conduct in any degree.

21 (b) Assault with intent to commit criminal sexual conduct.

22 (c) An attempt to commit criminal sexual conduct in any  
23 degree.

24 (d) Felonious assault on a child, child abuse, or cruelty,  
25 torture, or indecent exposure involving a child.

26 (e) A violation of section 145c of the Michigan penal code,  
27 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.145c.

1           (5) A person shall not smoke on a school bus.

2           (6) A person shall not possess or consume alcoholic liquor or  
3 a controlled substance on a school bus.

4           (7) This section does not require new or additional third  
5 party reimbursement or worker's compensation benefits for services  
6 rendered.