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**TITLE 575 STATE SCHOOL BUS COMMITTEE**

LSA Document #00-55(F)

DIGEST

Amends 575 IAC 1-1-1 and 575 IAC 1-2 regarding Type A school buses. Effective 30 days after filing with the secretary of state.

**575 IAC 1-1-1**                      **575 IAC 1-2-57**  
**575 IAC 1-2-22**                **575 IAC 1-2-66**  
**575 IAC 1-2-54**

SECTION 1. 575 IAC 1-1-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**575 IAC 1-1-1 Applicability of specifications; definitions**

**Authority:** IC 20-9.1-4-4

**Affected:** IC 20-9.1-1-5

Sec. 1. (a) The **term definitions in this section apply throughout this article.**

(b) "School bus" means any motor vehicle, other than a special purpose bus as defined in IC 20-9.1-1-5, designed and constructed for the accommodation of more than ten (10) passengers that is used for the transportation of Indiana school children. The term includes either the chassis or the body, or both the chassis and the body.

~~(b)~~ ~~The term~~ (c) "School children" means children enrolled in private schools in grades kindergarten through twelve (12) and all children enrolled in public school corporations.

~~(c)~~ ~~A~~ (d) "Type A school bus" ~~is means~~ a conversion or body constructed upon a van-type ~~compact truck~~ or a ~~cutaway~~ front-section vehicle with a ~~gross weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less and left side driver's door~~, designed for carrying more than ten (10) persons. **The term includes two (2) classifications:**

- (1) **Type A-1, with a gross vehicle weight rating of ten thousand (10,000) pounds and under; and**
- (2) **Type A-2, with a gross vehicle weight rating over ten thousand (10,000) pounds.**

~~(d)~~ ~~A~~ (e) "Type B school bus" ~~is means~~ a conversion or body constructed and installed upon a van or front-section vehicle chassis or stripped chassis with a vehicle weight rating of more than **ten thousand** (10,000) pounds and designed for carrying more than ten (10) persons. Part of the engine is beneath and/or behind the windshield and beside the driver's seat. The entrance door is behind the front wheels.

~~(e)~~ ~~A~~ (f) "Type C school bus" ~~is means~~ a body installed upon a flat back cowl chassis with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than **ten thousand** (10,000) pounds and designed for carrying more than ten (10) persons. All of the engine is in front of the windshield. The entrance door is behind the front wheels.

~~(f)~~ ~~A~~ (g) "Type D school bus" ~~is means~~ a body installed upon a chassis with the engine mounted in the front, midship, or rear with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than **ten thousand** (10,000) pounds and designed for carrying more than ten (10) persons. The engine may be behind the windshield and beside the driver's seat, at the rear of the bus, behind the rear wheels, or midship between the front and rear axles. The entrance door is ahead of the front wheels.

~~(g)~~ (h) "Vehicles for transporting handicapped students" ~~are means~~ vehicles designed and constructed to meet the requirements for the appropriate size school buses with specialized equipment as prescribed under 575 IAC 1-5. (*State School Bus Committee; Sec 1; filed Feb 10, 1978, 3:31 p.m.; Rules and Regs. 1979, p. 323; filed Apr 14, 1981, 11:30 a.m.; 4 IR 778, eff Jul 1, 1981; filed*

Jun 20, 1988, 8:50 a.m.: 11 IR 3819; filed Mar 19, 2001, 11:32 a.m.: 24 IR 2467)

SECTION 2. 575 IAC 1-2-22 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**575 IAC 1-2-22 Springs**

**Authority: IC 20-9.1-4-4**

**Affected: IC 20-9.1-5**

Sec. 22. The **capacity of** springs or suspension **assembly assemblies** must accommodate a GVWR of 7,400 pounds. ~~Progressive springs must be used; commensurate with the chassis manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating.~~ (State School Bus Committee; Sec II, Rule 22-1; filed Feb 10, 1978, 3:31 p.m.: Rules and Regs. 1979, p. 342; filed Jun 20, 1988, 8:50 a.m.: 11 IR 3829; filed Mar 19, 2001, 11:32 a.m.: 24 IR 2468)

SECTION 3. 575 IAC 1-2-54 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**575 IAC 1-2-54 Rub rails**

**Authority: IC 20-9.1-4-4**

**Affected: IC 20-9.1-5**

Sec. 54. (a) There must be two (2) rub rails on each side of the body. ~~that must be able to resist impact and body crushing.~~

(b) The rails do not have to extend ~~to~~ **across** the wheel housing and access door areas.

(c) All rub rails ~~must~~ **must** be at least four (4) inches wide **in their finished form** and made of at least 16 gauge corrugated or ribbed steel.

**(d) Press-in or snap-on rub rails are prohibited.** (State School Bus Committee; Sec II, Rule 54-1; filed Feb 10, 1978, 3:31 p.m.: Rules and Regs. 1979, p. 353; filed Jun 20, 1988, 8:50 a.m.: 11 IR 3841; filed Mar 19, 2001, 11:32 a.m.: 24 IR 2468)

SECTION 4. 575 IAC 1-2-57 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**575 IAC 1-2-57 Seats**

**Authority: IC 20-9.1-4-4**

**Affected: IC 20-9.1-5**

Sec. 57. The seats must provide at least a **twenty-four** (24) inch knee space, measured from the seat cushion level at the midpoint of the transverse line of the seat. The distance between the rearmost portion of the seat backs of the rear row of seats and the outside rear of the bus body, measured at the floor line, must be at least six (6) inches. All seat covering material must be free of holes or tears. (State School Bus Committee; Sec II, Rule 57-1; filed Feb 10, 1978, 3:31 p.m.: Rules and Regs. 1979, p. 354; filed Jun 20, 1988, 8:50 a.m.: 11 IR 3841; filed Mar 19, 2001, 11:32 a.m.: 24 IR 2468)

SECTION 5. 575 IAC 1-2-66 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**575 IAC 1-2-66 Windshield and windows**

**Authority: IC 20-9.1-4-4**

**Affected: IC 20-9.1-5**

Sec. 66. (a) Glass in the side and rear windows must be made of AS-2 or better grade, as specified in American Standards Association Code Z26.1 and must meet the manufacturer's standards.

(b) Federally approved plastic materials may be used in any bus window, except for the windshield and the windows to the immediate right and left of the driver and any rear window used for driver visibility.

(c) Each full side window must provide an unobstructed emergency opening ~~which that~~ is at least nine (9) inches high and **twenty-two** (22) inches wide, attained by lowering the window.

**(d) Type A-2 buses must have a minimum of one (1) push-out emergency split sash window on each side of the vehicle conforming to the emergency window exit requirements as specified in federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217. The windows specified in this section are in addition to the emergency exit requirements of federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217.** (*State School Bus Committee; Sec II, Rule 66-1; filed Feb 10, 1978, 3:31 p.m.: Rules and Regs. 1979, p. 357; filed Apr 14, 1981, 11:30 a.m.: 4 IR 784, eff Jul 1, 1981; filed Jun 20, 1988, 8:50 a.m.: 11 IR 3843; filed Mar 19, 2001, 11:32 a.m.: 24 IR 2468*)

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