

CHAPTER 751

(House Bill 454)

AN ACT to add new Section 266A to Article 66½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Motor Vehicles," subtitle "Operation of Vehicles Upon Highways," to follow immediately after Section 266 thereof to require all school buses in the State, in a jurisdiction where passengers are required or allowed to cross in front of a school bus, to be equipped with a cross-view or similar convex mirror which will permit through its use observation of the area immediately in front of the bus, to specify the requirements for such mirrors, and to require local boards of education to furnish such mirrors for school buses TO BE EQUIPPED WITH A CROSS-VIEW OR SIMILAR MIRROR TO PERMIT THE OPERATOR'S OBSERVATION IN FRONT OF THE BUS AND RELATING GENERALLY TO THE APPLICATION AND USE OF THIS REQUIREMENT.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland.* That new Section 266A be and it is hereby added to Article 66½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Motor Vehicles," subtitle "Operation of Vehicles Upon Highways," to follow immediately after Section 266 thereof, and to read as follows:

266A.

After January 1, 1967, every school bus in the State as defined in this article, in a jurisdiction where passengers are required or allowed to cross in front of a school bus, shall be equipped with a cross-view or similar mirror which will permit the operator of the bus to observe through its use the area from the front bumper of the bus forward to the point where direct observation is possible. The mirror shall be a convex mirror at least seven and one-half inches in diameter which shall be securely attached to the bus as designated by regulation of the State Board of Education. If the mirror is attached to the bumper of the bus, it shall be held by at least three attachments. Mirrors meeting the requirements of this section shall be provided at the expense of each local board of education for attachment to buses.

AFTER SEPTEMBER 1, 1966 1967, EVERY SCHOOL BUS IN THE STATE AS DEFINED IN THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE EQUIPPED WITH A CROSS-VIEW OR SIMILAR MIRROR WHICH PERMITS THE OPERATOR OF THE BUS TO OBSERVE THROUGH ITS USE THE AREA FROM THE FRONT BUMPER OF THE BUS FORWARD TO THE POINT WHERE DIRECT OBSERVATION IS POSSIBLE, EXCEPT THOSE BUSES WHICH MAY BE EXCLUDED BY SPECIFIC DESIGNATION BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IF THE MIRROR WOULD SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE BECAUSE OF THE CONFIGURATION OF THE SCHOOL BUS. THE TYPE OF MIRROR AND ITS METHOD OF ATTACHMENT SHALL BE DESIGNATED BY REGULATION OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.