

(4) School vehicles shall be marked and identified as provided in and school vehicle lighting equipment and special warning devices shall conform with the rules, regulations, and standards adopted by the Administrator.

(b) [(1)] A person may not operate any alternately flashing warning signal on any school vehicle except when the school vehicle is stopping or stopped on a roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers.

[(2)] (C) As to any Type I school vehicle, whenever the vehicle is not being operated on a highway for the transportation of children, students, or teachers for educational purposes or in connection with a school activity:

[(i)] (1) The alternately flashing warning lights shall be deactivated; and

[(ii)] (2) The words "school bus" at the front and rear of the vehicle shall be covered or otherwise concealed and the word "chartered" substituted.

[(c)] (D) Except in Baltimore City or in any municipal corporation described in § 21-706[(b)](C) of this article and except as otherwise provided in this section, every school vehicle driver shall put in operation alternately flashing warning signals[:

(1) Not] NOT less than 100 feet before bringing the vehicle to a full stop for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers[; or].

(E) EXCEPT IN BALTIMORE CITY OR IN ANY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION DESCRIBED IN § 21-706(B) OF THIS ARTICLE AND EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, EVERY SCHOOL VEHICLE DRIVER SHALL PUT IN OPERATION ALTERNATELY FLASHING WARNING SIGNALS WHEN

[(2) When] stopping within 100 feet behind another school vehicle in the act of loading or unloading passengers.

[(d)] (F) (1) In this subsection, "loading zone" means an area on or adjacent to a highway, but not on its roadway:

(i) That has been designated for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers by a school vehicle; and

(ii) Whose location has been approved by either the superintendent of schools in the local school system in which the loading is located, the Maryland State Police, or the local police department, in cooperation with the State Highway Administration where applicable.

(2) It is the policy of this State to encourage the establishment and use of loading zones for school vehicles.