

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3806

To require the Secretary of Transportation to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking concerning seat belts on school buses, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Mr. BOOKER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Transportation to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking concerning seat belts on school buses, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Secure Every Child
5 Under the Right Equipment Standards Act of 2026” or
6 the “SECURES Act of 2026”.

7 **SEC. 2. PROPOSED RULEMAKING.**

8 (a) REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 180 days after
9 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-
10 portation shall publish a notice of proposed rulemaking

1 on new Federal standards for school bus seat belt require-
2 ments on all new school buses, regardless of gross vehicle
3 weight rating.

4 (b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In the proposed rulemaking,
5 the Secretary shall consider—

6 (1) the safety benefits of a lap/shoulder belt
7 system (also known as a “Type 2 seat belt assem-
8 bly”);

9 (2) the conclusion of the National Transpor-
10 tation Safety Board that “Lap/shoulder belts pro-
11 vide the highest level of protection for school bus
12 passengers” and that “Properly worn lap belts pro-
13 vide some benefit,” while “Properly worn lap/shoul-
14 der belts provide greater benefit by reducing injuries
15 related to upper body flailing”;

16 (3) the 2015 announcement by the Adminis-
17 trator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Ad-
18 ministration Mark Rosekind, stating that the agency
19 believes “that every child on every school bus should
20 have a three-point seat belt”;

21 (4) any innovative approaches to seat belt de-
22 tection, seat belt reminder systems, and seat belt
23 violation alert systems that could be incorporated
24 into school bus designs; and

- 1 (5) existing experience from the States that
- 2 have already required school buses to be equipped
- 3 with seat belts.

