

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5214

To require combination 3-point safety belts on all school buses.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 5, 2004

Mr. BACA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To require combination 3-point safety belts on all school buses.

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 “Save Every Child
5 Using Restraints Act of 2004”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) According to a National Transportation
9 Safety Board report, the current safety feature of
10 compartmentalization does not protect school bus
11 passengers during lateral impacts and rollover crash-

1 es because passengers do not always remain com-
2 pletely in their seat.

3 (2) Studies by the National Highway Traffic
4 Safety Administration indicated less trauma to the
5 head and neck of those passengers wearing 3-point
6 safety belts in school buses than by passengers in
7 buses without 3-point safety belts, or wearing only
8 lap safety belts.

9 (3) Such studies also concluded that 3-point
10 safety belts may not be compatible with seats de-
11 signed according to the current safety mechanism of
12 compartmentalization.

13 (4) Such studies have also shown the need for
14 proper use of safety belts and the need for increased
15 education in school bus safety and safety belt use.

16 **SEC. 3. 3-POINT SAFETY BELTS IN SCHOOL BUSES.**

17 The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe regu-
18 lations establishing a safety standard requiring that all
19 school buses with a gross vehicle weight of more than
20 10,000 pounds be equipped with 3-point safety belts on
21 all seats. In formulating the safety standard, the Secretary
22 shall consider the compatibility of 3-point safety belts on
23 seats designed according to the current safety mechanism

- 1 of compartmentalization, as designated by the National
- 2 Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

