

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE DRH30193-MA-337 (3/17)

Short Title: School Bus/Activity Bus Operation.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Carney.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO CLARIFY RESTRICTIONS ON OPERATING A SCHOOL BUS OR
3 ACTIVITY BUS WHILE OCCUPIED BY A CHILD OR CHILDREN.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 20-218 reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 20-218. **Standard qualifications for school bus drivers; speed limit for school buses and**
7 **school activity buses.**

8 (a) Qualifications. – No person shall drive a school bus over the highways or public
9 vehicular areas of North Carolina while it is occupied by ~~children~~ one or more child passengers
10 unless the person furnishes to the superintendent of the schools of the county in which the bus
11 shall be operated a certificate from any representative duly designated by the Commissioner
12 and from the Director of Transportation or a designee of the Director in charge of school buses
13 in the county showing that the person has been examined by them and is fit and competent to
14 drive a school bus over the highways and public vehicular areas of the State. The driver of a
15 school bus must be at least 18 years of age and hold a Class A, B, or C commercial drivers
16 license and a school bus driver's certificate. The driver of a school activity bus must meet the
17 same qualifications as a school bus driver or must have a license appropriate for the class of
18 vehicle being driven.

19 (b) Speed Limits. – It is unlawful to drive a school bus ~~loaded with~~ occupied by children
20 over the highways or public vehicular areas of the State at a greater rate of speed than 45 miles
21 per hour. It is unlawful to drive a school activity bus loaded with children over the highways or
22 public vehicular areas of North Carolina at a greater rate of speed than 55 miles per hour.

23 (c) Punishment. – A person who violates this section commits a Class 3 misdemeanor."

24 SECTION 2. This act becomes effective October 1, 2009, and applies to offenses
25 committed on or after that date.

