

April 7, 1998

TO: Public and Private K-12 School Administrators

FROM: Donald Tudor, Senior Executive Assistant
Division of Support Services

SUBJECT: Non-Compliance Motor Vehicles Used to Transport School Children

The U. S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, adopted safety standards effective April 1, 1977, that govern the type of vehicles which can be sold to transport school children. One specific standard requires any vehicle manufactured on or after April 1, 1977, which is designed to carry more than 10 persons and is sold or leased to transport school children to and from school or related events, to comply with all of the school bus safety standards in effect at the date of manufacture.

Attached are numerous memorandums, letters and a news release defining a vehicle (school bus) that complies with the school bus safety standards, as well as information to help you determine if your institution is classified as a school under the federal regulation and therefore obligated to comply with the requirement.

This information is being provided in an effort to assist school administrators in making correct decisions concerning the safe transportation of school children in South Carolina. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please call Doug Hamrick in the Office of Transportation at 803-734-8247.

DNT/bc
Attachments

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