

1 AN ACT relating to the transportation of students and declaring an emergency.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 189.540 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) The Kentucky Board of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations to
5 govern the design and operation of all Kentucky school buses and to govern the
6 operation of ~~{district-owned}~~ passenger vehicles **owned, leased, or privately**
7 **contracted by the district that transport**~~{transporting}~~ students under KRS
8 156.153(3)~~{(2)}~~. The board shall, with the advice and aid of the Department of
9 Kentucky State Police and the Transportation Cabinet, enforce the administrative
10 regulations governing the operation of all school buses whether owned by a school
11 district or privately contracted and all ~~{district-owned}~~ passenger vehicles **owned,**
12 **leased, or privately contracted by the district that transport**~~{transporting}~~ students
13 under KRS 156.153(3)~~{(2)}~~. The regulations covering the operation shall by
14 reference be made a part of any contract with a school district. Every school district
15 and private contractor referred to under this subsection shall be subject to those
16 regulations.

17 (2) Any employee of any school district who violates any of the administrative
18 regulations in any contract executed on behalf of a school district shall be subject to
19 removal from office. Any person operating a school bus **or passenger vehicle to**
20 **transport students** under contract with a school district who fails to comply with
21 any of the administrative regulations shall be guilty of breach of contract and the
22 contract shall be canceled after proper notice and a hearing by the responsible
23 officers of such school district.

24 (3) **(a)** Any person who operates a school bus shall be required to possess a
25 commercial driver's license issued pursuant to KRS 281A.170 with a school
26 bus endorsement as described in KRS 281A.175.

27 **(b) Any person who operates a passenger vehicle that is owned, leased, or**

1 *privately contracted by the district to transport students shall be required to*
2 *possess a valid Class D operator's license in accordance with KRS*
3 *156.153(3)(c).*

4 ➔Section 2. Whereas achieving efficiency in pupil transportation in the
5 Commonwealth is of paramount importance to schools, students, and parents, an
6 emergency is declared to exist, and this Act takes effect upon its passage and approval by
7 the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law.