

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 264 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: H2/8/21
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1265

By: Representatives Boyd, Crawford
By: Senator L. Eads

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE UNLAWFUL
PASSING OF A SCHOOL BUS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE UNLAWFUL
PASSING OF A SCHOOL BUS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 27-51-1001(a)(1)(A)(i), concerning penalties for traffic violations involving school buses, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A)(i) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section and § 27-51-1004~~(e)~~(d), a person who violates the provisions of this subchapter shall upon conviction be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or confined in the county jail not to exceed ninety (90) days, or both fined and imprisoned.

*SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-51-1004 is amended to read as follows:
27-51-1004. Passing when stopped prohibited.*

(a) When a school bus stops and displays its alternating red warning lights for the purpose of loading or unloading passengers, every operator of a motor vehicle or motorcycle meeting or overtaking the school bus from any direction shall bring the motor vehicle or motorcycle to a complete stop not less than thirty feet (30') before reaching the school bus.



(b) The operator of the motor vehicle or motorcycle shall not start up or attempt to pass in any direction until the school bus ~~vehicle~~ has finished receiving or discharging its passengers and is in motion again.

(c) A violation of this section includes the failure of the operator of a motor vehicle or motorcycle to comply with subsection (a) or subsection (b) of this section while operating the motor vehicle or motorcycle upon:

- (1) A public road, street, or highway;
- (2) Private or public property open to the general public; or
- (3) A private or public road, driveway, or parking lot belonging to a kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) private or public school.

(d) If the operator of a motor vehicle or motorcycle fails to comply with subsection (a) or subsection (b) of this section while demonstrating a reckless disregard for the safety of the passengers of the school bus, the operator upon conviction ~~shall be~~ is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

/s/Boyd

APPROVED: 3/4/21