

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

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