

2020 -- H 7580

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LC004221
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES
GENERALLY

Introduced By: Representatives Jacquard, Lima, Millea, McNamara, and Handy

Date Introduced: February 13, 2020

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 31-23 of the General Laws entitled "Equipment and Accessories
2 Generally" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **31-23-56.1. Crossing control arm.**

4 (a) Commencing September 1, 2021, school buses may be equipped with a crossing
5 control arm mounted on the right side of the front bumper. When opened, this arm must extend in
6 a line parallel to the body side and aligned with the right front wheel.

7 (b) All components of the crossing control arm and all connections must be
8 weatherproofed.

9 (c) The crossing control arm must:

10 (1) Incorporate system connectors (electrical, vacuum, or air) at the gate; and

11 (2) Be easily removable to allow for towing of the bus.

12 (d) The crossing control arm must be:

13 (1) Constructed of noncorrodible or nonferrous material; or

14 (2) Treated in accordance with the body sheet metal specification.

15 (e) The arm must have no sharp edges or projections that could cause injury or be a
16 hazard to students. The end of the arm must be rounded.

17 (f) The crossing control arm must:

18 (1) Extend a minimum of seventy inches (70") (measured from the bumper at the arm

1 assembly attachment point) when in the extended position:

2 (2) Extend simultaneously with the stop signal arm or arms, activated by stop signal arm
3 controls; and

4 (3) Not extend past the end of the bumper when in the stowed position.

5 (g) An automatic recycling interrupt switch may be installed for temporarily disabling the
6 crossing control arm.

7 (h) The assembly must include a device attached to the bumper near the end of the arm to
8 automatically retain the arm while in the stowed position. That device must not interfere with
9 normal operations of the crossing control arm.

10 (i) The crossing control arm may have an override switch that disallows the use of the
11 crossing arm when the emergency brake is engaged.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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- 1 This act would allow school buses to be equipped with a crossing control arm in addition
- 2 to a stop arm commencing September 1, 2021.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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