

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1818

To require the Secretary of Transportation to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking concerning seat belts on school buses, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 12, 2019

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. BOOKER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Transportation to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking concerning seat belts on school buses, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Secure Every Child  
5 Under the Right Equipment Standards Act of 2019” or  
6 the “SECURES Act of 2019”.

7 **SEC. 2. PROPOSED RULEMAKING.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transpor-

1 tation shall publish a notice of proposed rulemaking on  
2 new Federal standards for school bus seat belt require-  
3 ments on all school buses, regardless of gross vehicle  
4 weight rating.

5 (b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In the proposed rulemaking  
6 under subsection (a), the Secretary of Transportation  
7 shall consider—

8 (1) the safety benefits of lap/shoulder belt sys-  
9 tem (also known as a “Type 2 seat belt assembly”);

10 (2) the conclusions of the National Transpor-  
11 tation Safety Board that—

12 (A) “lap/shoulder belts provide the highest  
13 level of protection for school bus passengers”;  
14 and

15 (B) “properly worn lap belts provide some  
16 benefit” while “properly worn lap/shoulder belts  
17 provide greater benefit by reducing injuries re-  
18 lated to upper body flailing”;

19 (3) the 2015 announcement by the Adminis-  
20 trator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Ad-  
21 ministration, Mark Rosekind, stating that the agen-  
22 cy believes that “every child on every school bus  
23 should have a three-point seat belt”;

24 (4) any innovative approaches to seat belt de-  
25 tection, seat belt reminder systems, and seat belt

1 violation alert systems that could be incorporated  
2 into school bus designs; and

3 (5) existing experience from States that have  
4 already required school buses to be equipped with  
5 seat belts.

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