

**As Reported by the House Transportation and Infrastructure  
Committee**

**128th General Assembly  
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**H. B. No. 448**

**Representative Chandler**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Ujvagi, Letson, Hagan, Brown, Okey, Skindell,  
Yuko, Harwood**

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**A B I L L**

To enact section 4511.773 of the Revised Code to 1  
require all school buses purchased, leased, or 2  
rented after January 1, 2014, to transport 3  
students to and from school to be equipped with a 4  
seat belt assembly for all passengers. 5

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 4511.773 of the Revised Code be 6  
enacted to read as follows: 7

**Sec. 4511.773.** (A) On and after January 1, 2014, no person, 8  
community school, board of education, or governmental entity shall 9  
purchase, lease, or rent a school bus to transport students to and 10  
from school unless the school bus has a seat belt assembly 11  
installed for the use of each school bus passenger occupying a 12  
passenger seat. The seat belt assembly shall consist of a 13  
retractable combination pelvic and upper torso restraint and shall 14  
meet or exceed federal requirements for such seat belt assemblies. 15  
Each person, community school, board of education, or governmental 16  
entity operating a school bus shall maintain all available seat 17

belt assemblies in a usable form. 18

(B) A person, community school, board of education, or 19  
governmental entity operating a school bus shall adopt a 20  
disciplinary policy governing the failure of a school bus 21  
passenger to wear or properly adjust an available seat belt 22  
assembly. 23

(C) Nothing in this section, including any disciplinary 24  
policy adopted under division (B) of this section, shall be 25  
construed as imposing on a person, community school, board of 26  
education, or governmental entity operating a school bus a duty to 27  
ensure that a school bus passenger wear and properly adjust an 28  
available seat belt assembly. A person, community school, board of 29  
education, or governmental entity operating a school bus is not 30  
subject to criminal prosecution and is not liable in damages in 31  
any civil action on account of any injury, death, or loss of 32  
person or property allegedly arising from a failure to enforce a 33  
disciplinary policy adopted under division (B) of this section or 34  
to otherwise ensure that a school bus passenger wear and properly 35  
adjust an available seat belt assembly. 36

(D) Nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting 37  
the liability or immunity of a person, community school, board of 38  
education, or governmental entity operating a school bus under 39  
Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code. 40