

Seat Belts on School Transport (Scotland) Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

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**THE FOLLOWING ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS ARE ALSO PUBLISHED:
Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 7-EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 7-FM), a Policy
Memorandum (SP Bill 7-PM) and statements on legislative competence (SP Bill 7-LC).**

Seat Belts on School Transport (Scotland) Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

An Act of the Scottish Parliament to require that motor vehicles provided for the dedicated transport of pupils to and from establishments where they receive primary education or secondary education are fitted with seat belts.

1 Duty to ensure seat belts fitted on dedicated school transport services

5 A school authority must ensure that each motor vehicle which the authority provides or arranges to be provided for a dedicated school transport service has a seat belt fitted to each passenger seat.

2 Meaning of “dedicated school transport service”

10 In this Act, “dedicated school transport service” means a transport service provided for the sole purpose of carrying pupils for the whole or part of the journey either or both—

- (a) from the pupils’ homes to any educational establishment where primary education or secondary education is provided for the pupils,
- (b) from any such establishment to the pupils’ homes.

3 Meaning of other key terms

15 (1) In this Act—

“motor vehicle” has the meaning given by section 185 of the Road Traffic Act 1988,

“passenger seat” means any seat in a motor vehicle other than the driver’s seat,

“school authority” means—

- 20 (a) an education authority,
- (b) the managers of a grant-aided school,
- (c) the proprietor of an independent school,

25 “seat belt” means a belt of any kind which complies with the requirements of regulations made under section 40 of the Road Traffic Act 1972 and section 41 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 governing the construction, equipment and maintenance of motor vehicles.

- (2) Each of the following terms in this Act has the meaning given by section 135 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980—

“education authority”,

“educational establishment”,

5 “grant-aided school”,

“independent school”,

“managers”,

“primary education”,

“proprietor”,

10 “pupil”,

“secondary education”.

4 Annual compliance statement

- (1) A school authority must prepare a compliance statement in respect of each successive period of 1 year beginning with the day on which this section comes into force.

15 (2) A “compliance statement” is a statement containing information about the steps which the authority has taken to comply with the duty imposed by section 1.

- (3) A school authority must publish the compliance statement—

(a) as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of the period mentioned in subsection (1), and

20 (b) in such manner as the authority considers appropriate.

5 Commencement

- (1) This section and sections 2, 3 and 6 come into force on the day after Royal Assent.

(2) The other provisions of this Act come into force on such day as the Scottish Ministers may by regulations appoint.

25 (3) Regulations under subsection (2) may—

(a) include transitional, transitory or saving provision,

(b) make different provision for different purposes.

6 Short title

The short title of this Act is the Seat Belts on School Transport (Scotland) Act 2017.

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An Act of the Scottish Parliament to require that motor vehicles provided for the dedicated transport of pupils to and from establishments where they receive primary education or secondary education are fitted with seat belts.

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