

## HR 10022

School Bus Safety Act of 2023

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Transportation and Public Works

**Introduced:** Oct 22, 2024

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit. (Oct 22, 2024)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/10022>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** TN • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 22, 2024
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 22, 2024

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 2746	Identical bill	Sep 7, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## School Bus Safety Act of 2023

This bill directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) to issue rules requiring school buses to have certain safety features. DOT must also establish a grant program to assist in the implementation of the requirements.

Specifically, DOT must issue rules requiring school buses to include

- three-point safety belts for all seats,
- a fire suppression system which addresses engine fires,
- a firewall between the engine and passenger compartment that prevents hazardous quantities of gas or flames from passing through the firewall,
- increased performance standards for interior flammability and smoke emissions,
- an automatic emergency braking system,
- an event data recorder, and
- an electronic stability control system.

DOT must also require at least eight hours of behind-the-wheel training for school bus operators that meets specified requirements.

Further, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) must issue rules on the evaluation of safety sensitive personnel for moderate-to-severe obstructive sleep apnea.

NHTSA must also study the benefits of requiring school buses manufactured in, or imported into, the United States to be equipped with a motion-activated detection system that is capable of detecting road users (e.g., pedestrians and bicyclists) and alerting the bus operator of their presence. NHTSA must issue rules implementing such a requirement.

Finally, DOT must establish a grant program to assist local educational agencies in (1) purchasing school buses equipped with three-point safety belts or any of the other safety features required under this bill, and (2) modifying existing school buses.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Oct 22, 2024:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 22, 2024:** Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Oct 22, 2024:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.