HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill makes modifications and clarifications in the regulations on pupil transportation.

Section

- School bus. Clarifies that the definition of a "type III vehicle" includes passenger vehicles (and not just certain types of passenger autos). Such vehicles are used by schools in some situations to transport small groups of pupils.
- **Personal cellular phone call prohibition.** Amends a prohibition on using a cell phone for personal reasons when operating a school bus to include times when the vehicle is part of the flow of traffic (such as at a stop light).
- **Driver seat belt.** Clarifies a requirement that drivers of a school bus must use a seat belt, to specify that the seatbelt be fastened and properly adjusted, and that both the shoulder and lap portions secure the driver.
- **Option.** Amends and clarifies a provision governing warning and safety equipment that may be carried in a type III vehicle so that the provision applies to all type III vehicles.