

State of Minnesota

H. F. No. 182

(d) A passenger on a school bus equipped with lap belts or lap and shoulder belts must use these lap belts or lap and shoulder belts unless the passenger, or if the passenger is a minor, the passenger's parent or guardian, has notified the school district in writing that the passenger does not intend to wear the lap belt or lap and shoulder belt.

(e) In an action for personal injury or wrongful death against a school district, a school bus operator under contract with a school district, or any agent or employee of a school district or operator, or against a volunteer, no such person or entity shall be held liable solely because the injured party was not wearing a safety belt; provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall be construed to grant immunity from liability for failure to:

(1) maintain in operating order any equipment required by statute, rule, or school district policy; or

(2) comply with an applicable statute, rule, or school district policy.

(f) In an action for personal injury or wrongful death, a school district, a school bus contract operator, any agent or employee of a school district or operator, or a volunteer is not liable for failing to assist any child with the adjustment, fastening, unfastening, or other use of the lap belt or lap and shoulder belt.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 169.685, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Requirement; exemptions.** After January 1, 1964, all new motor vehicles, not exempt from Minnesota license fees, other than a bus, ~~school bus~~, motorcycle, motorized bicycle, farm tractor, road tractor, and truck, sold or offered for sale or registered in Minnesota shall be equipped to permit the installation of seat belts in the front seat thereof.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective December 31, 2023.