

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETIETH SESSION

S.F. No. 246

(SENATE AUTHORS: CARLSON and Senjem)

DATE
01/19/2017

D-PG
365

Introduction and first reading
Referred to Transportation Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; prohibiting school bus stops in right-turn lanes except
1.3 under specified conditions; requiring use of prewarning amber signals, flashing
1.4 red signals, and stop-signal arms when stopping in right-turn lanes; amending
1.5 Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 169.443, subdivision 2.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 169.443, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 2. **Use of stop-signal arm.** (a) The stop-signal arm system of a school bus must
1.9 be used in conjunction with the flashing red signals only when the school bus is stopped on
1.10 a street or highway to load or unload school children.

1.11 (b) A local authority, including the governing body of an Indian tribe, may by ordinance
1.12 require that a school bus activate the stop-signal arm system and flashing red signals while
1.13 stopped to unload school children at a location other than a location on a street or highway.
1.14 The ordinance must designate each location where the requirement is imposed. The
1.15 requirement is effective only if the local authority has erected signs at or near the location
1.16 to provide adequate notice that other vehicles are required to obey section 169.444,
1.17 subdivision 1, when those signals are activated.

1.18 (c) A school bus driver is prohibited from loading or unloading passengers in a designated
1.19 right-turn lane or in a lane immediately adjacent to a designated right-turn lane unless:

1.20 (1) a school bus stop designated by the district transportation safety director is located
1.21 in the right-turn lane;

1.22 (2) the driver stops the bus at the extreme right side of the lane; and

2.1 (3) the driver activates the prewarning flashing amber signals, flashing red signals, and
2.2 stop-arm signal, unless the school board or its designee, based on safety considerations, has
2.3 directed the driver not to do so in writing.

2.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2017.

2.5 Sec. 2. **RULE CHANGE.**

2.6 The commissioner of public safety must amend Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1000, subpart
2.7 2, so that it is consistent with section 1, using the good cause procedure under Minnesota
2.8 Statutes, section 14.388.

2.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.