



HOUSE BILL 193: 2020-2021 School Transportation Flexibility.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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| Committee: | House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House | Date: | March 11, 2021 |
| Introduced by: | Reps. Pickett, Saine | Prepared by: | Samantha Yarborough |
| Analysis of: | Second Edition | | Staff Attorney |

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 193 would allow local boards of education to provide transportation to students receiving in-person instruction for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year as follows:*

- *For students in Plan A, bus transportation in accordance with Plan A requirements.*
- *For students in Plan B, bus transportation in accordance with Plan B requirements.*
- *For buses simultaneously providing transportation to students in Plan A and Plan B, the one passenger per seat requirement would apply only to students in Plan B.*

CURRENT LAW: The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has provided the StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12) (Toolkit) as guidance for public schools in reopening for the 2020-2021 school year. Schools must develop three plans for reopening: Plan A (Minimal Social Distancing), Plan B (Six Feet Social Distancing), and Plan C (Full Remote Learning).

The Toolkit includes guidance on issues related to the transportation of students receiving in-person instruction under Plan A or Plan B, such as wearing facial coverings, cleaning the transportation vehicles, and screening measures. For Plan B only, no more than one passenger may be seated per school bus bench seat, with the exception that members of the same household may share a seat.

BILL ANALYSIS: HB 193 would allow local boards of education to provide bus transportation to students for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

- For students receiving Plan A instruction, bus transportation must be provided in accordance with the Plan A requirements in the Toolkit.
- For students receiving Plan B instruction, bus transportation must be provided in accordance with the Plan B requirements in the Toolkit.
- If a bus simultaneously provides transportation to students receiving Plan A and Plan B instruction, the requirement that no more than one passenger may be seated per school bus bench seat would apply only to those students receiving Plan B instruction.

EFFECTIVE DATE: HB 193 would become effective when it becomes law.

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578