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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To require the Secretary of Transportation to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking concerning seat belts on school buses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. GOTTHEIMER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Transportation to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking concerning seat belts on school buses, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Secure Every Child
5 Under the Right Equipment Standards Act of 2026” or
6 the “SECURES Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROPOSED RULEMAKING.**

2 (a) REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 180 days after
3 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-
4 portation shall publish a notice of proposed rulemaking
5 on new Federal standards for school bus seat belt require-
6 ments on all new school buses, regardless of gross vehicle
7 weight rating.

8 (b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In the proposed rulemaking,
9 the Secretary shall consider—

10 (1) the safety benefits of a lap/shoulder belt
11 system (also known as a “Type 2 seat belt assem-
12 bly”);

13 (2) the conclusion of the National Transpor-
14 tation Safety Board that “Lap/shoulder belts pro-
15 vide the highest level of protection for school bus
16 passengers” and that “Properly worn lap belts pro-
17 vide some benefit,” while “Properly worn lap/shoul-
18 der belts provide greater benefit by reducing injuries
19 related to upper body flailing”;

20 (3) the 2015 announcement by the Adminis-
21 trator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Ad-
22 ministration Mark Rosekind, stating that the agency
23 believes “that every child on every school bus should
24 have a three-point seat belt”;

25 (4) any innovative approaches to seat belt de-
26 tection, seat belt reminder systems, and seat belt

1 violation alert systems that could be incorporated
2 into school bus designs; and
3 (5) existing experience from the States that
4 have already required school buses to be equipped
5 with seat belts.