

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION  
**LEGISLATIVE BILL 258**

Introduced by Sullivan, 41; Harms, 48.

Read first time January 16, 2013

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to schools; to amend section 79-609, Reissue  
2 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to prohibit use of  
3 interactive wireless communication devices by school bus  
4 drivers as prescribed; and to repeal the original  
5 section.  
6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Section 79-609, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3           79-609 (1) The school board or board of education, after  
4 consultation with a member of the Nebraska State Patrol, shall  
5 determine the number of passengers that may be safely transported in  
6 each bus.

7           (2)(a) Any company or agency that provides transportation  
8 of pupils by school bus and contracts directly with the pupils or  
9 their parents, (b) the school board or board of education of the  
10 public schools, and (c) the governing authority of any private,  
11 denominational, or parochial school in this state shall provide, at  
12 least twice during each school year to each pupil who is transported  
13 in a school bus, instruction in safe riding practice and  
14 participation in emergency evacuation drills.

15           (3) The operator of a school bus equipped with an  
16 occupant protection system as defined in section 60-6,265 shall wear  
17 such system whenever the vehicle is in motion.

18           (4) The operator of a school bus, including any school  
19 bus which transports pupils by direct contract with the pupils or  
20 their parents and not owned by or under contract with a school  
21 district or nonpublic school, shall not, whenever the vehicle is in  
22 motion, use any type of interactive wireless communication device as  
23 defined in section 60-470.02. This subsection does not apply to any  
24 dispatch communication device.

25           Sec. 2. Original section 79-609, Reissue Revised Statutes

1 of Nebraska, is repealed.