

PLEASE

DON'T PASS A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS

Car Drives Around Bus and Kills Girl, 7



- It's against the law
 - It could result in serious fines
 - It could result in a license suspension
- And it could result in something much, much worse

PROTECT CHILDREN FROM PASSING MOTORISTS



The roadway environment is more congested and dangerous every year. Protecting children from passing motorists requires a concerted team effort from supervisors, routers, and bus drivers.

SAFE ROUTING PRACTICES CAN REDUCE THE RISK TO CHILDREN

Eliminate crossovers whenever possible - especially on high-speed roads and multilane highways. Children who have to cross are more at risk. Younger children and children with special needs should not be expected to cross the road on their own.

Maximize visibility for motorists at bus stops - avoid placing stops near curves, hills, or view obstructions.

Keep bus stops back from corners whenever possible - motorists turning from the intersecting roadway may not see your stopped bus until it's too late. It's especially important to avoid crossovers at intersections.

Provide a safe waiting area for children at bus stops. Insist that children wait for the bus in an orderly fashion, well back from the roadway edge.

The bus should be stopped far enough to the right that motorists are discouraged from trying to pass on that side.

TEACH CHILDREN HOW TO SAFELY BOARD AND EXIT THEIR BUSES

Children who must cross should cross far enough in front of the bus to see the driver's face - "I see the driver - the driver sees me!"

Children should wait for a pre-arranged signal from the driver before beginning to cross - all drivers in the fleet should use the same hand signal; consistency = safety.

After the driver signals it's safe to begin crossing, before entering the unprotected part of the roadway children must carefully look left, right, left, and listen.

In the afternoon, children should "check before they step" off the bus - right side passers are a growing problem in many areas.

Children should also be taught a pre-arranged "danger" signal, such as sounding the horn, so they know exactly what to do if a motorist isn't stopping for the bus.

Bus drivers should constantly scan for traffic as children get on or off the bus - all other distractions must be tuned out during this "moment of truth."