

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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SENATE BILL 850*

Short Title: School Bus Safety.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Hartsell.

Referred to: Judiciary II (Criminal).

March 19, 2007

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO CHANGE THE ELEMENT OF SERIOUS BODILY INJURY TO
3 INJURY FOR THE PURPOSES OF STRIKING A PERSON WHILE PASSING A
4 STOPPED SCHOOL BUS AND TO MAKE A CONFORMING CHANGE TO
5 THE DEFINITION OF SCHOOL BUS IN THE DEFINITIONS.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-217(g) reads as rewritten:

8 "**§ 20-217. Motor vehicles to stop for properly marked and designated school buses**
9 **in certain instances; evidence of identity of driver.**

10 ...

11 (g) Any person who willfully violates subsection (a) of this section and strikes
12 any person causing ~~serious bodily~~ injury to that person shall be guilty of a Class I
13 felony."

14 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 20-4.01(27)d4. reads as rewritten:

15 "**§ 20-4.01. Definitions.**

16 Unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply throughout
17 this Chapter to the defined words and phrases and their cognates:

18 ...

19 (27) Passenger Vehicles. –

20 ...

21 d4. School bus. – A vehicle whose primary purpose is to transport
22 school students over an established route to and from school for
23 the regularly scheduled school day, that is equipped with
24 alternately flashing red lights on the front and rear and a
25 mechanical stop signal, and that bears the words "School Bus"
26 on the front and rear ~~in letters at least 8 inches in height of the~~
27 bus. The term includes a public, private, or parochial vehicle
28 that meets this description.

29 ..."

1 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2007, and applies to
2 offenses committed on or after that date.