

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

H

4

HOUSE BILL 970
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/23/03
Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 5/1/03
Fourth Edition Engrossed 5/1/03

Short Title: School Bus Driver Medical Evaluations.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 9, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS TO UNDERGO CERTAIN TESTS
EVERY TWO YEARS IN ORDER TO RETAIN A SCHOOL BUS DRIVER'S
CERTIFICATE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 20-218(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Qualifications. – No person shall drive a school bus over the highways or public vehicular areas of North Carolina while it is occupied by children unless the person furnishes to the superintendent of the schools of the county in which the bus shall be operated a certificate from any representative duly designated by the Commissioner and from the Director of Transportation or a designee of the Director in charge of school buses in the county showing that the person has been examined by them and is fit and competent to drive a school bus over the highways and public vehicular areas of the State. Every two years, the person shall be required to undergo a blood pressure check, a vision test, and a hearing test by a school nurse or other licensed medical personnel employed by the local school administrative unit or by a licensed medical provider. If warranted, a local school administrative unit may require the person to have a medical evaluation to ensure that the person is fit and competent to drive a school bus. The driver of a school bus ~~must~~shall be at least 18 years of age and hold a Class A, B, or C commercial drivers license and a school bus driver's certificate. The driver of a school activity bus ~~must~~shall meet the same qualifications as a school bus driver or ~~must~~shall have a license appropriate for the class of vehicle being driven."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2003.