

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE LABOR AND
COMMERCE COMMITTEE

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 90

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to school bus safety and the wages
7 and licensing of school bus drivers; and providing
8 for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be known as the Alaska School
11 Bus Safety Act.

12 * Sec. 2. AS 23.10.055(5) is amended to read:

13 (5) an individual employed by the United States or by the
14 state or political subdivision of the state, except as provided in
15 AS 23.10.065(b), including prisoners not on furlough detained or
16 confined in prison facilities;

17 * Sec. 3. AS 23.10.065 is amended to read:

18 Sec. 23.10.065. MINIMUM WAGES. Except as provided under (b) of
19 this section, an [AN] employer shall pay to each employee wages at a
20 rate of not less than 50 cents an hour greater than the prevailing
21 Federal Minimum Wage Law or \$2.60 an hour, whichever is greater, for
22 hours worked in a pay period, whether the work is measured by time,
23 piece, commission or otherwise. An employer may not apply tips or
24 gratuities bestowed upon employees as a credit toward payment of the
25 minimum hourly wage required by this section. Tip credit as defined
26 by the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 as amended does not apply to
27 the minimum wage established by this section.

28 * Sec. 4. AS 23.10.065 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

29 (b) Subject to the limitation under (c) of this section, an

1 employer shall pay to each person employed as a public school bus
2 driver wages at a rate of not less than two times the minimum wage
3 established under (a) of this section, for hours worked in a pay
4 period, whether work is measured by time, commission, or otherwise.
5 An employer may not apply fringe benefits as a credit toward payment
6 of the minimum wage established under this subsection.

7 (c) Notwithstanding (b) of this section, an employer who con-
8 tracts with the Department of Education or a school district to pro-
9 vide school bus transportation services is not required to adjust
10 school bus driver wages under (b) of this section, except when enter-
11 ing into or renewing the contract.

12 * Sec. 5. AS 28.05 is amended by adding a new section to article 2 to
13 read:

14 Sec. 28.05.104. SCHOOL BUSES. (a) Each school district or
15 regional educational attendance area shall

16 (1) provide instruction on safe boarding, riding, exiting,
17 and emergency procedures to school children transported to or from a
18 public school by school bus; and

19 (2) conduct at least two drills each school year on school
20 bus emergency procedures.

21 (b) The Department of Education, in coordination with the De-
22 partment of Public Safety, shall

23 (1) establish equipment requirements for a school bus that
24 is used to transport school children to or from a public school; and

25 (2) at least twice each calendar year, inspect each school
26 bus for compliance with this subsection.

27 * Sec. 6. AS 28.15.046(b) is amended to read:

28 (b) The department may not issue a license under this section
29 unless the applicant

- 1 (1) is at least 21 [19] years of age;
- 2 (2) has had a license to operate a motor vehicle at least
- 3 three years [ONE YEAR] before the date of application;
- 4 (3) has successfully completed all required driving, writ-
- 5 ten, and physical examinations;
- 6 (4) has submitted information sufficient to complete a
- 7 background check consisting of a fingerprint check of national crimi-
- 8 nal records and state criminal records of the state or states in which
- 9 the applicant has resided for the past two years;
- 10 (5) has completed a state approved school bus driver train-
- 11 ing course established under AS 14.07.020(a)(14) or has for the previ-
- 12 ous two years been licensed by the state to operate a school bus.

13 * Sec. 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 1989.