

1 IN THE HOUSE  
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3 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 43  
4 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
5 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION  
6  
7 Relating to safety belts in school  
8 buses.  
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10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:  
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12 WHEREAS it is the intent of the Alaska State Legislature that school  
13 buses provide optimum safety when transporting school children; and  
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15 WHEREAS crash tests of school buses have demonstrated potential safety  
16 problems with the use of lap belts; and  
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18 WHEREAS the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration within the  
19 U.S. Department of Transportation is responsible for establishing school  
20 bus safety design standards; and  
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22 WHEREAS current federal school bus safety standards provide for com-  
23 partmentalization, but do not include standards for safety belt installa-  
24 tion; and  
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26 WHEREAS compartmentalization is designed primarily for safety in  
27 frontal crash situations; and  
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29 WHEREAS a significant percentage of bus accidents in Alaska involve  
rollover crashes; and  
WHEREAS automobile crash tests have demonstrated that three point  
safety belts are far more effective than two point lap belts for frontal,  
side, and rollover crashes; and  
WHEREAS federal standards regarding current design of school buses may  
require significant amendment to accommodate three point safety belts;  
BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the National  
Highway Traffic Safety Administration is requested to amend the existing  
federal school bus safety standards to require three point safety belts.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Dan Quayle,  
Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the  
Honorable Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; to the  
Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and  
the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska  
delegation in Congress; and to the Honorable Samuel Skinner, Secretary of  
the U.S. Department of Transportation.