

**ACT No. 421**

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 695

BY REPRESENTATIVE ABRAMSON

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:158(J)(2) and (3), relative to loading and unloading of school  
3 buses; to provide relative to restrictions on the location of loading and unloading  
4 students; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:158(J)(2) and (3) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as  
7 follows:

8 §158. School buses for transportation of students; employment of bus operators;  
9 alternative means of transportation; improvement of school bus turnarounds;  
10 loading and unloading students

11 \* \* \*

12 J. The governing authority of each public school shall adopt policies and  
13 procedures or shall make provision in its bus transportation service agreement to do  
14 all of the following:

15 \* \* \*

16 (2) Prohibit a bus driver from loading or unloading students at or near their  
17 homes while the bus is in a traffic lane of any type of street as defined in R.S. 32:1  
18 and require that students be loaded or unloaded on a shoulder unless the governing  
19 authority determines that loading or unloading on a shoulder is less safe for the  
20 student. However, if there is no shoulder or if the shoulder is determined to be less  
21 safe, a bus driver may load and unload a student while the bus is in a lane of traffic  
22 but only if the bus is in the lane farthest to the right side of the road so that ~~the~~

1           ~~student does not need to cross any lane of traffic to get onto or off of the bus there~~  
2           is not a lane of traffic between the bus and the right-side curb or other edge of the  
3           road.

4                   (3) Prohibit a bus driver from loading or unloading ~~students~~ a student, ~~either~~  
5           ~~at school or at or near their homes in a manner or in a location that results in students~~  
6           ~~crossing lanes of traffic on a state highway or any other type of street.~~ in a location  
7           on a divided highway such that a student, in order to walk between the bus and his  
8           home or school, would be required to cross a roadway of the highway on which  
9           traffic is not controlled by the visual signals on the school bus.

10           Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
11           signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
12           by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
13           vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
14           effective on the day following such approval.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_