

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 8, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Geanie W. Morrison, Chair, House Committee on Transportation

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: SB693** by Garcia (Relating to three-point seat belts on buses that transport schoolchildren.), **As Engrossed**

<p><b>No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b></p>
------------------------------------------------------------------

Under existing law, a school bus or school activity bus operated or contracted for use by a school district must be equipped with a three-point seat belt for each passenger. This requirement applies to each school bus purchased on or after September 1, 2010 and each school-chartered bus contracted for use on or after September 1, 2011.

The bill would amend Transportation Code Sec. 547.701 to expand the type of vehicles to which the three-point seat belt requirement applies to include a "multifunction school activity bus" or a "school-chartered bus." Under the provisions of the bill, the three-point seat belt requirement would not apply to vehicles with a model year of 2017 or earlier. The requirement also would not apply to a vehicle with a model year of 2018 or later if a school district's board of trustees determines that the school district's finances could not support the purchase of a bus with three-point seatbelts, provided that the board votes on such a determination in a public hearing.

The bill would repeal language stating that school districts only had to comply with the three-point seat belt requirement to the extent that the Legislature appropriated money to reimburse school districts for complying with the requirement.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 701 Texas Education Agency

**LBB Staff:** UP, AG, AM, THo