
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133, May 18, 1973*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:*

In accordance with the provisions of Article LVI of the Amendments to the Constitution, I am returning, herewith, House Bill No. 3506 entitled "AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE PERIODIC INSPECTION OF SCHOOL BUSES."

G. L. C. 90 s. 7A directs the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to prepare rules and regulations providing for the inspection of school buses during January, March, May, August and November in each year. This legislation would strike August from the statute and insert September.

I understand that it would be more convenient for both the bus owners and the inspectors if the first inspection of the school year were conducted in September when all repairs begun during the summer have been completed and when all drivers are available. This statute provided for a September inspection until 1971 when it was revised to require the inspection in August. The Secretary of Public Safety has reported to me that it is better to have this inspection conducted in August in order to assure that all buses have been inspected prior to being used to transport school children. I believe it would not be wise to allow the first inspection of the school year to be conducted in September without requiring that it be accomplished before the buses are used for transporting children.

I am, therefore, recommending that this legislation be amended to provide that the inspection in question may be conducted at any time between August 1 and September 15 each year and before the bus is to be used for school transportation. The safety of our school children is obviously of paramount importance.

I therefore recommend that the bill be amended as follows: —

By striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following: —

The first sentence of section 7A of chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out, in line 12, as appearing in chapter 136 of the acts of 1971, the word “August” and inserting in place thereof the words: – August first to September fifteenth, but in any event before the vehicle is used as a school bus.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCIS W. SARGENT,

Governor.