

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

C.S.H.B. 1744  
By: Noriega (Gallegos)  
Education  
4/29/1999  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **DIGEST**

Currently, under Texas law, a school bus may be equipped with a rooftop warning lamp which may only be used when the bus is stopped or stopping to load or unload students during inclement weather. This bill would authorize a school bus to be equipped with rooftop warning lamps that are operated under rules adopted by the school district, and would eliminate the provision that rooftop warning lights on a school bus may operate only during inclement weather when the bus is stopping to load or unload students, in order to make school buses more visible.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, H.B. 1744 authorizes a school bus to be equipped with rooftop warning lamps that are operated under rules adopted by the school district, and eliminates the provision that rooftop warning lights on a school bus may operate only during inclement weather when the bus is stopping to load or unload students, in order to make school buses more visible.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 547.701(b), Transportation Code, to authorize a school bus to be equipped with rooftop warning lamps that are operated under rules adopted by the school district. Deletes existing Paragraph (B) which provides that the rooftop warning lights of a school bus may be operated only during inclement weather when the bus is stopped to load or unload students.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.

### **SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES**

SECTION 1.

Amends Section 547.701(b), Transportation Code, to authorize a school bus to be equipped with rooftop warning lamps that are operated under rules adopted by the school district.