

HOUSE BILL NO. 224  
INTRODUCED BY J. COHENOUR

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING NEW SCHOOL BUSES THAT ARE PURCHASED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2009, TO HAVE SEATBELTS; AMENDING SECTION 61-9-421, MCA; AND PROVIDING A DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 61-9-421, MCA, is amended to read:

**"61-9-421. Certain vehicles exempt.** Except as provided in [section 2], ~~Section~~ 61-9-420 is not applicable to a vehicle that:

(1) is a motorbus, schoolbus, taxicab, moped, quadricycle, or motorcycle or is not required to be equipped with safety belts under 49 CFR 571 as it reads on January 1, 1984; or

(2) has a seating capacity as designated by the manufacturer of two persons and there are two persons 4 years of age or older in the vehicle."

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Seatbelt requirement for school buses purchased on or after January 1, 2009.** Beginning on January 1, 2009, all new school buses purchased for use in the state of Montana must have seatbelts.

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Codification instruction.** [Section 2] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 20, chapter 10, part 1, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 10, part 1, apply to [section 2].

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective January 1, 2009.

- END -

