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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Governor Whitmer signed school bus safety bills into law

This week Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed House Bills [4201](#), [4202](#), [4203](#) and [4204](#) into law. These laws were created with the safety of students and school bus drivers in mind. The bills will

- prohibit unauthorized persons from boarding a school bus without permission of the driver and create a \$500 civil fine for unauthorized boarding;
- allow school buses to be equipped with a stop-arm camera system and provide for the use of visual material from such cameras as evidence in a proceeding for failing to stop or overtaking a stopped school bus when red flashing lights are activated.

The laws take effect immediately. Wayne-Westland Community Schools Transportation Director Rhonda Lyons has been tirelessly lobbying, along with the Michigan Department of Education and the Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation.

“This is a huge accomplishment in our fight to keep our students and staff safe while on our buses,” Lyons said.

The next legislation Lyons is lobbying for is to change the current MCL 257.602 law.

“We are working to change the language to allow law enforcement to be able to stop vehicles if they are seen using their cell phone or other electronics while driving. Currently, it is not a primary offense they can just pull someone over for,” she said.

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