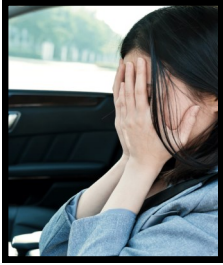


Illegal Passing Violations - Why Does it Keep happening?



Drivers of a motor vehicle here in Iowa know that it is illegal to pass a stopped school bus. So why does it keep happening? Everyday Iowa school bus drivers are transporting approximately 243,283 students, close to the size of the population of the city of Des Moines.

Data from the Iowa-Stop Arm Violation survey, it was projected that Iowa had **770 illegal passing's of a stopped school bus a day!** That comes to approximately 138,600 each year.

Sadly, that is also approximately 770 opportunities each day for a child to be injured, or lose their life being hit by a vehicle illegally passing a stopped school bus.

Increasing enforcement for Iowa's illegal passing law is a critical goal. How vigorously they can pursue this goal will depend on the law enforcement commitment and resources in each community. Studies have shown that, without the threat of enforcement, and without the public seeing or hearing about the law being enforced (this includes prosecution and conviction), the program will have little, if any, impact.

While the number of actual crashes caused by this violation is low, the potential for injury or death is high. For years, school bus drivers have been aware of, and have complained about, motorists illegally passing their school buses. In the mid-1990s several States conducted surveys to determine the actual extent of illegal passing. What they found was worse than they had imagined.

Iowa Legislators have made an amendment to "*Kaydn's Law*." This change was included in the 2020 Iowa Acts chapter 1074 (SF457), which is a rather lengthy bill.

To view the change, go to:

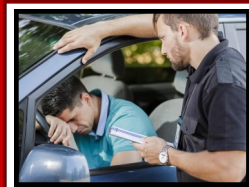
<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=88&ba=sf457>

(See Section 38, on page 14).

Law enforcement officers, county attorneys, and judges, are aware that this amendment had passed a year ago. The change in the language provides some clarification and options for prosecution, to county attorneys and judges.



The first change, made the penalty somewhat higher, as it was changed from \$250.00 to **\$345.00**, and in the past, it stated that the fine could not be more than \$675.00, and that was changed to **\$930.00**.



The second adjustment was to the language. The 30-day loss of license language had a significant change. Additional language was added, and it now reads; The department may require the person to attend and successfully complete, at the person's own expense, a driver improvement program approved by the department, in lieu of driver's license suspension for the offense pursuant to section 321.210.

With these changes in "*Kaydn's Law*." school bus drivers should see more convictions for illegally passing a stopped school bus. Local judicial officials can and will be using these penalty changes, to prosecute and convict individuals correctly for the illegal passing of a stopped school bus. **Stop for the flashing red lights of a school Bus!**

When to stop when school bus lights are flashing or stop bar is out

- 1 2-lane roadway: both directions stop**
- 2 3+ lanes: stop if traveling same direction as bus**
- 3 Turning lane: stop if traveling same direction as bus**
- 4 Median: stop if traveling same direction as bus**

IPTA Keep Children Safe! "**STOP ON RED**"