



Iowa Pupil Transportation Association

Position Paper

November, 2013

The Iowa Pupil Transportation Association supports the inspection of all district operated vehicles that will transport students for any reason.

Currently in Iowa the only school operated vehicles that are inspected are vehicles used as school buses to transport students to and from school.

Family type or multi-purpose passenger vehicles (cars, vans and SUV's with a capacity of nine or less) owned by the school district are not required to be inspected if they are used only for student activities and not home to school student transportation.

Iowa Administrative Rule 281-44.6(285) defines a family type or multi-purpose passenger vehicle and 281-44.6(30) defines applicability of these standards.

Iowa Code 321.1(69) defines what a school bus is and that definition does not include the family type or multi-purpose passenger vehicles.

These rules only address the yellow bus and the family type or multi-purpose passenger vehicles used as school buses to and from school.

In Iowa, school districts may choose to have family type or multi-purpose passenger vehicles inspected at the time their yellow school bus inspections are conducted, but some districts elect to not inspect these vehicles because it is not required by Iowa Code or Iowa Administrative rules.

The Iowa pupil Transportation Association believes that all students in the state should be entitled to a safe transportation experience whether it is in a yellow bus or a family type or multi-purpose passenger vehicle.

The Iowa Pupil Transportation Association supports developing legislation for the inspection of all district operated vehicles that will transport students for any reason.

The Iowa Pupil Transportation Association also supports the Department of Education's overseeing and administering the inspection process of these vehicles.

The Iowa Pupil Transportation Association concludes that the inspection of these family type or multi-purpose passenger vehicles is important and essential for Iowa school districts to provide safe and efficient transportation services for their students on all school bus routes and school related activities.