



## 2018 Legislative Summary -

Increased funding for Stop Arm Campaigns – SUPPORT – A bill was introduced to allow \$50,000 to be used in a public awareness campaigns for school bus stop arms.

MVR Access – SUPPORT - School districts are able to run Motor Vehicle Driver Reports for their employees. Private school bus companies should have the same access. The MSBOA members need to have the ability to check on driver license records as required by state law.

Type III Driver Notification of Revocation – SUPPORT – Both CDL and Non-CDL drivers need to report to their employers if their driver's license has been revoked. The MSBOA wants lawfully licensed drivers behind the wheel.

Yellow Rub Rails – SUPPORT – Currently several MSBOA Operations utilize a black belt line alternating with yellow rub rails. The MSBOA will seek to add this language to its technical bill to allow flexibility to those members.

Hand Free Cellular – SUPPORT – While cell phone use and texting is already prohibited in school buses, the MSBOA supports a ban that will reduce distracted driving and increase safety on our roads and highways.

Supplemental Lighting – SUPPORT – In an effort to curb stop arm violations, a bill was introduced to allow for a study to research the effect of additional lighting to the current 8 Light system and/or the replacement of incandescent lighting with LED lights.

Other items the MSBOA is following:

Turn Lane Stops – In 2017 a bill was introduced to address ambiguity in Minnesota Statute and Rule as it pertains to school bus stops conducted in a right hand turn lane. The bill passed but created local issues about the ability to exit the turn lane and re-enter the travel lanes. The MSBOA will continue to follow the issue.

Seat Belts for School Busses – There have been a few inquiries by Senate staff indicating a desire to introduce a seat belt bill. The MSBOA will be watching this issue closely.

Biofuels – In 2018, according to Minnesota Statute biodiesel will go to 20% during the summer months (April – September). The MSBOA has already attended one meeting on the issue.

Preschool Transportation and School Safety Funding – With the turnover from to a Republican Majority in the Senate, it is unclear what will happen to Governor Dayton's desire for free, universal Pre-K. The MSBOA will follow the issue due to the potential impact to school transportation as well as the push for additional school safety funding.

Increased Criminal Background Checks – There have been many variations of increased background checks for school employees and contractors introduced. MSBOA will monitor those and work to protect students while watching for inefficiencies and unnecessary burdens to employers.

School Contracts – Late in the session it was discovered that the school food services contract lobbyist group inadvertently changed statute language in 123B.52 that would limit school contracts to a term of two years plus two years. This will need to be a priority to change in the 2019 session for the MSBOA.