

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS STAFF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

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HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill: HF 395/HSB 107

Committee: Education

Floor Manager Representative Moore

Date: May 8, 2025

Staff: Kristin Rozeboom (1-3015)

House Committee: PASSED on 2/11 (23-0) House Floor: PASSED on 5/8/25 (64-20) Senate Floor: PASSED on 4/28 (50-0)

Governor:

School Bus Driver Instruction

- A school bus driver shall hold a CDL with a passenger endorsement and school bus endorsement.
- A school district may guires an approved course of instruction for school bus drivers.
- The Dept. of Ed. and DOT will collaborate on the school bus course.
- Takes effect January 1, 2026

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1. Section 321.376(1) & (3)

Strikes sections and instead says that in addition to meeting the school bus driver qualifications in 321.375, a bus driver shall hold a CDL issued by the DOT with a passenger endorsement and a school bus endorsement.

If required by the school district, a school bus driver shall successfully complete an approved course of instruction for school bus drivers.

A person holding a temporary restricted license issued under Chapter 321J shall not operate a school bus.

A person applying for employment or employed as a school bus driver shall not be required to successfully complete an approved course of instruction for school bus drivers unless the school district requires the course.

Section 2. Section 321.76 New Subsection

A district may require successful completion of an approved course of instruction for bus drivers. An approved course includes on or more of the following:

- A course of instruction for school bus drivers approved by the Dept. of Ed.
- Entry-level driver training completed in accordance with 321.188(1)© if it meets the requirements of 49 CFR pt. 380, Appendix C and D.
 - o The Dept. of Ed., in collaboration with the DOT, shall adopt rules establishing requirements for providers of entry-level driver training to comply.
 - The rules must provide for minimum training content, contact hours, and proficiency standards, and must establish a standard training course duration that ensures each training course provides all entry-level driver training requirements and specified school bus driver training requirements, including but not limited to training necessary for a passenger endorsement and school bus endorsement.

• Other training as described in a resolution adopted by the school district, which may include but is not limited to certain portions of a course described above.

If a school district requires successful completion of an approved course of instruction for school bus drivers, a school bus driver shall complete the course before or within the first 6 months of employment and at least every 24 months thereafter.

If a school bus driver is required to complete an approved course of instruction for bus drivers, and fails to provide an employer with a certificate of completion of the approved course, the employer shall report the failure to the Dept. of Ed. and the department shall revoke the driver's authorization to operate a school bus. The Dept. of Ed. shall send notice of the revocation to both the person whose school bus authorization has been revoked and the employer. A person whose school bus authorization has been revoked shall not be issued another authorization until certification of the completion of an approved course is received by the Dept. of Ed., or until the person becomes a bus driver in a district that does not require completion of an approved course and the person is otherwise in compliance with 321.375 and this section.

Effective Date

Takes Effect January 1, 2026