

MEMORANDUM

To: School Superintendents and Principals

From: Michael A. LaRocco, Director of School Transportation

Date: June 1, 2017

Re: Senate Enrolled Act 108 – Education Matters (IC 20-27-9-5)

Background:

Indiana General Assembly recently passed legislation that will allow for the use of the special purpose bus to also transport the sibling of a special needs student, effective July 1, 2017.

Guidance:

Under current law, IC 20-27-9-5(a)(3), a district was allowed to use a special purpose bus for home-to-school and school-to-home transportation to only transport the special needs student, unless the sibling was special needs as well. The new law changes the allowance for a special purpose bus to also transport the sibling of a special needs student, regardless of special needs status, when transporting home to school and school to home. The new law does mandate the district make this allowance, however, it is the local district's choice as to whether to permit this or not.

Additionally, this allowance only applies when the special needs student is currently receiving services (e.g. if the special needs student were to have their IEP altered to no longer require special transportation then this allowance would be discontinued).

This bill was signed into law on May 4, 2017 and is effective July 1, 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike LaRocco at (317) 232 – 0891 or mlarocco@doe.in.gov.