For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF AN AUTOMATED SCHOOL BUS SAFETY CAMERA; TO USE A PHOTOGRAPH OR VIDEO AS EVIDENCE OF CERTAIN TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF AN AUTOMATED SCHOOL BUS SAFETY CAMERA; AND TO USE A PHOTOGRAPH OR VIDEO AS EVIDENCE OF CERTAIN TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 19, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:


(a) As used in this section, "automated school bus safety camera" means a device that is affixed to a school bus and is synchronized to automatically record video or one (1) or more sequenced photographs of a motor vehicle passing a school bus in violation of § 27-51-1004.

(b) A public school district or an open enrollment public charter school may:

(1) Install and operate an automated school bus safety camera on a school bus; and

(2) Enter into a contract with a private vendor to install and operate the automated school bus safety camera.
(c) A public school district or an open enrollment public charter school that uses automated school bus safety cameras shall provide a video or photograph recorded by an automated school bus safety camera for use as evidence in a criminal or civil proceeding for a violation of an offense under § 27-51-1001 et seq. when requested by an investigating law enforcement agency.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-51-1001, concerning the penalties for a traffic violation involving a school bus, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(c) A photograph or video recorded by an automated school bus safety camera authorized by § 6-19-130:

   (1) Is admissible as evidence in a criminal or civil proceeding to the extent permitted by the rules of evidence of this state; and
   
   (2) Is not required for the prosecution of a violation of an offense under this subchapter.

/s/McElroy

APPROVED: 03/07/2017