

# Legislative Analysis



## SCHOOL BUS DISPLAYING YELLOW FLASHING LIGHTS

Phone: (517) 373-8080  
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**House Bill 4214 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Brad Paquette**  
**Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure**  
**Complete to 5-12-25**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 4214 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to newly provide that the driver of a motor vehicle that comes upon a school bus displaying two alternately flashing yellow lights while stopped or stopping must bring their vehicle to a full stop, if it can be done safely, at least 20 feet away. The driver would have to stay stopped until either the school bus starts moving again or the flashing lights are turned off. If a full stop cannot be safely made, the driver would have to slow down and pass the school bus with caution.

The above provisions would be in addition to the current requirement that the driver of a motor vehicle that comes upon a school bus displaying two flashing red lights while stopped or stopping must bring their vehicle to a full stop at least 20 feet away and not proceed until either the school bus starts moving or the lights are turned off.

The above provisions apply (red lights), and under the bill would apply (red lights and yellow lights), to vehicles traveling in either direction on the applicable roadway, unless there is a median or other physical road division with no crosswalk or pedestrian crossway. The bill would add language to further clarify this scope of application.

MCL 257.601b and 257.682

### FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the state and on local units of government. The extent to which provisions of the bill would increase the number of individuals responsible for a civil infraction is not known.

Under section 909(1) of the Michigan Vehicle Code, civil fine revenue would be applied to the support of public and county law libraries. In addition, under section 907(13) of the Michigan Vehicle Code, for any civil fines ordered to be paid, the judge or district court magistrate is required to order the defendant to pay a justice system assessment of \$40 for each civil infraction determination, except for parking violations. Revenue deposited into the state's Justice System Fund supports various justice-related endeavors in the judicial branch, the Departments of State Police, Corrections, Health and Human Services, and Treasury, and the Legislative Retirement System.

There is not a practical way to determine the number of violations that will occur under provisions of the bill, so there is not a way to estimate the amount of additional revenue that would be collected.

The fiscal impact on local court systems would depend on how provisions of the bill affected court caseloads and related administrative costs. It is difficult to project the actual fiscal impact to courts due to variables such as law enforcement practices, prosecutorial practices, judicial discretion, case types, and complexity of cases.

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