

CHAPTER NO. 349

SENATE BILL NO. 203  
INTRODUCED BY McCALLUM

IN THE SENATE

January 23, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Education.
February 1, 1979	Committee recommend bill do pass as amended. Report adopted
February 3, 1979	Printed and placed on members' desks.
February 5, 1979	Second reading, do pass.
February 6, 1979	Considered correctly engrossed.
February 7, 1979	Third reading, passed. Transmitted to second house.

IN THE HOUSE

February 8, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Education and Cultural Resources.
March 9, 1979	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.
March 13, 1979	Second reading, concurred in.
March 16, 1979	Third reading, concurred in.

IN THE SENATE

March 17, 1979	Returned from second house. Concurred in. Sent to enrolling.  Reported correctly enrolled.
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1 *Senate* BILL NO. *203*  
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Ma Williams*  
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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PERMITTING THE TRUSTEES  
 5 TO NEGOTIATE RENEWAL SCHOOL BUS CONTRACTS WITHOUT CALLING  
 6 FOR BIDS IF CONTRACT COST INCREASES DO NOT EXCEED 8%;  
 7 AMENDING SECTION 20-10-125, MCA."

8  
 9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

10 Section 1. Section 20-10-125, MCA, is amended to read:

11 "20-10-125. Bid letting for contract bus -- payments  
 12 under transportation contract. (1) Before any contract with  
 13 a private party for the provision of school bus  
 14 transportation is awarded, the trustees shall:

15 (a) secure bids by publishing during a period of 21  
 16 days at least three calls for bids in a newspaper of the  
 17 county that will give notice to the largest number of people  
 18 of the district or in the official newspaper of the county;  
 19 the trustees shall let the contract to the lowest  
 20 responsible bidder, and the trustees shall have the right to  
 21 reject any and all bids; or

22 (b) negotiate a new contract with the current school  
 23 bus contractor provided the negotiated contract costs do not  
 24 exceed by more than 5% ~~8%~~ per year the basic costs of the  
 25 previous year's contract and provided the duration of the

1 negotiated contract is no longer than the duration of the  
 2 previous contract. Such a negotiated contract can be entered  
 3 into only at a public meeting of the trustees at which  
 4 meeting the patrons of the district may appear and be heard.  
 5 Notice of the meeting must have been published in a  
 6 newspaper of wide circulation within the district at least 1  
 7 week prior to the meeting.

8 (2) The provisions of this section for awarding a  
 9 contract for school bus transportation shall be subject to  
 10 the provisions of 20-9-204.

11 (3) The trustees shall not expend any moneys of the  
 12 district for school bus transportation by a private party or  
 13 for individual transportation unless:

14 (a) a contract for such transportation services has  
 15 been completed; and

16 (b) such contracted services for school bus  
 17 transportation by a private party have been actually  
 18 furnished except that the failure to perform may be excused  
 19 by the trustees for reasons not under the control of the  
 20 contractor; or

21 (c) such contracted services for individual  
 22 transportation have been actually furnished as confirmed by  
 23 the actual attendance of school by the eligible transportees  
 24 and recorded on the school attendance records or, in the  
 25 case of a supervised correspondence course or supervised

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1 home study, as confirmed by the trustees; except that the  
2 contracted services furnished one way on any school day  
3 shall be reimbursed at one-half the daily contract amount."

-End-

Approved by Committee  
on Education

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5 ~~SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. THIS ACT IS EFFECTIVE ON~~  
6 ~~ITS PASSAGE AND APPROVAL.~~

-End-

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