

SCHOOL BUS CHILD SAFETY ALERT SYSTEM REGULATIONS GO INTO EFFECT FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

On September 27, 2016, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law SB 1072 (Chapter 721, Statutes of 2016), the Paul Lee School Bus Safety Law. The law, named after a special-needs student who tragically died after being left alone on a school bus for many hours, was written to prevent children being left unattended on buses by requiring drivers to walk the length of the bus to deactivate an alarm system before leaving. The law also strengthened driver protocols and training and provided the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) the authority to suspend the bus driver's certificate to drive the bus. A complete summary of SB 1072 can be found at:

[October 2016 Keenan Briefing: SB 1072 School Bus Safety Alert](#)

Among other requirements, SB 1072 required California Highway Patrol (CHP) to adopt regulations governing the specifications, installation, and use of Child Safety Alert Systems (CSAS). Those regulations were finalized in December of 2017 and will go into effect for the 2018-2019 school year. On or before the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year and continuously thereafter, unless otherwise excepted, all school buses, school pupil activity buses, youth buses and child care vehicles must be equipped with a CSAS meeting the requirements of this regulation.

The regulation requires CSAS to meet the following requirements:

- Upon movement of the vehicle, the CSAS shall be automatically activated. There are several specific requirements on how the CSAS is designed to operate once it is activated. The device shall not be equipped with any method to deactivate the device except as noted within the regulation.
- The CSAS shall be permanently mounted at the rearmost portion of the interior of the vehicle so that it remains secure.
- The CSAS shall be operational under all reasonable conditions (i.e., temperature, time, vehicle status and loading).
- Documentation of any CSAS malfunction shall be kept and records retained for no less than two years. Any driver that encounters a malfunction shall report the malfunction to the vehicle operator.

A complete copy of the regulation can be found at the below:

[CHP Administrative Services Division CSAS Regulation](#)

Please contact your Keenan Account Manager for questions regarding this *Briefing*.

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