

Draft Regulation

Transport Act
(R.S.Q., c. T-12)

**Transportation of school children
— Road vehicles
— Amendments**

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting road vehicles used for the transportation of school children, the text of which appears below, may be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The purpose of the draft Regulation is to allow the use of handicapped accessible vehicles, to require the installation of flashing amber lights on minibuses and school buses, to require drivers to activate those lights or, where applicable, the flashing emergency lights of those vehicles to signal their intention to stop the vehicle, and to update the standards pertaining to the use of buses and minibuses as regards advanced warning devices and fire extinguishers.

The installation of flashing amber lights will be mandatory only on school buses the chassis of which was built after 1 July 2005; only enterprises purchasing such vehicles will be required to disburse an additional amount estimated at \$300 per vehicle.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Claude Martin, Director, Direction du transport terrestre des personnes, Ministère des Transports du Québec, 700, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, 25^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5H1; telephone: (418) 644-0324; fax: (418) 646-4904.

Any person having comments to make on the matter is asked to send them in writing, before the expiry of the 45-day period, to the Minister of Transport, 700, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, 25^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5H1.

YVON MARCOUX
Minister of Transport

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting road vehicles used for the transportation of school children*

Transport Act
(R.S.Q., c. T-12, s. 5, par. a)

1. The Regulation respecting road vehicles used for the transportation of school children is amended by inserting “red” after “flashing” in subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph of section 2.

2. Section 4 is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

“A handicapped accessible vehicle is also a vehicle used for the transportation of school children if it is equipped with a wheelchair access ramp or a wheelchair lift, fitted to carry at least one person in a wheelchair, is equipped with a restraining device fixed to the floor with four anchorages and used to keep each wheelchair in the same position as the permanent seats installed by the manufacturer, and if seat belts consisting of a shoulder belt and a lap belt are installed for each wheelchair.”

3. Section 11 is amended by replacing “178 Rexdale Boulevard, Etobicoke,” by “5060, Spectrum Way, Mississauga,”.

4. Section 34 is amended by replacing the fourth paragraph by the following:

“A school bus must, in addition, be equipped with flashing amber lights to warn drivers that the bus is preparing to stop to take on or discharge school children. The lights shall be designed and installed in accordance with the provisions that apply to the flashing red lights prescribed by this section.”

5. Section 37 is replaced by the following:

“**37.** The owner of a vehicle used for the transportation of school children must display the word “ÉCOLIERS” in black letters on a dome light or other medium that has a yellow-coloured surface and which is to be mounted horizontally in the centre of the roof of the vehicle. Each letter must be proportional in height and width and the message must be capable of being read at a distance of 30 metres.”

* The Regulation respecting road vehicles used for the transportation of school children, made by Order in Council 285-97 dated 5 March 1997 (1997, *G.O.* 2, 1441), was last amended by the regulation made by Order in Council 32-2001 dated 17 January 2001 (2001, *G.O.* 2, 1034).

6. Section 44 is amended by replacing subparagraphs 1 and 2 of the first paragraph by the following:

“(1) at least three triangle reflectors that conform to CSA Standard CSA D-250-03 entitled “School Buses”, as regards advanced warning devices, published on 18 March 2003 by the Canadian Standards Association;

(2) one adequately pressurized multi-purpose powder extinguisher having a minimum rating of 3A:40B:C that meets at least the requirements of CSA Standard CSA D-250-03, as regards fire extinguishers, and weighing between 2.0 and 2.5 kg; and”.

7. The following is inserted after section 44:

“**44.1.** The driver of a school bus must, before turning on the flashing red lights and activating the stop signal in accordance with section 456 or 461 of the Highway Safety Code (R.S.Q., c. C-24.2), turn on for at least 5 seconds the flashing amber lights referred to in the fourth paragraph of section 34 to warn drivers that the bus is preparing to stop to take on or discharge school children or persons under 18 years of age.”.

8. The following is inserted after section 53:

“**54.** A school bus the chassis of which was built before 1 July 2005 is not required to be equipped with the flashing amber lights prescribed by the fourth paragraph of section 34. In addition, the driver of such a school bus is exempt from the requirement of section 44.1 unless the bus is equipped with flashing amber lights to warn drivers that the bus is preparing to stop to take on or discharge school children.”.

The driver referred to in the first paragraph of a school bus that is not equipped with flashing amber lights must, before turning on the flashing red lights and activating the stop signal in accordance with section 456 or 461 of the Highway Safety Code, turn on for at least 5 seconds the flashing emergency lights referred to in section 377 of the Code to warn drivers that the bus is preparing to stop to take on or discharge school children or persons under 18 years of age.”.

9. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

Draft Regulation

Highway Safety Code
(R.S.Q., c. C-24.2)

Special road train operating permits — Amendments

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Special Road Train Operating Permits Regulation, the text of which appears below, may be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation specifies the routes road trains may travel, namely: autoroutes, access roads to industrial parks for a distance of not more than two kilometres, streets in an industrial park and short stretches of road near autoroutes. It amends the total loaded mass limit and the characteristics of road trains, as well as the conditions for the issue of permits. It eliminates duplicate provisions and standardizes the conditions for operating road trains with those applicable to other outsized vehicles. It increases the cost of permits to \$144 for a term of three-months or less and \$221 for longer terms.

The proposed regulatory amendments will have little impact on carriers. Some carriers will, however, have to change the location of their freight terminals to comply with the new authorized routes. Transitional provisions provide for those changes.

Further information may be obtained by contacting François Janelle, Ministère des Transports du Québec, 700, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, 2^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5H1; tel.: (418) 644-7612; fax: (418) 528-5670.

Any interested person having comments to make is asked to send them in writing, before the expiry of the 45-day period, to the Minister of Transport, 700, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, 29^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5H1.

YVON MARCOUX,
Minister of Transport
