



# **JEFFERSON**

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JEFFERSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE §547.701(E)  
– THREE-POINT SEAT BELT REQUIREMENT FOR SCHOOL BUSES**

---

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 546 (89th Texas Legislature) amended Texas Transportation Code §547.701(e) to require that, beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, all school buses operated by or contracted for use by a school district must be equipped with a three-point seat belt for each passenger and the driver; and

**WHEREAS**, §547.701(e)(1) provides a budget-based exception allowing a school district to delay compliance if the board of trustees determines that the district's budget does not currently permit compliance with the three-point seat belt requirement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has reviewed the current inventory of buses operated by or contracted for use by the Jefferson Independent School District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has reviewed the estimated costs to retrofit or replace all non-compliant buses with three-point seat belts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined that the District's current budget does not permit full compliance with the statutory requirement at this time;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Jefferson Independent School District as follows:

1. The Board finds that, of the twenty nine (29) buses operated by or contracted for use by the District:
  - 13 buses have no passenger seat belts,
  - 6 buses have two-point (lap) seat belts only, and
  - 10 buses have three-point seat belts for all passengers and the driver;
2. The Board determines that the estimated cost to equip all non-compliant buses with three-point seat belts is approximately \$680,000, and that the District's budget does not currently permit compliance with Texas Transportation Code §547.701(e);
3. The Board hereby formally invokes the budget-based exception provided in Texas Transportation Code §547.701(e)(1);

4. The Board directs the Superintendent to prepare and submit the report required by Texas Transportation Code §547.701(f) to the Texas Education Agency no later than May 29, 2026, and to present such report to the Board at a meeting held on or before that date; and
5. The Board authorizes the District and its administration to solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations in accordance with Texas Transportation Code §547.701(h) for the purpose of assisting the District in meeting the three-point seat belt requirement in the future.

**PASSED, ADOPTED, and APPROVED** on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026, by the Board of Trustees of Jefferson Independent School District by the following vote:

<b><u>Board Members</u></b>	<b><u>Aye</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>Abstain</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>
Tolesia Smith Davis	_____	_____	_____	_____
Kristin Johnson	_____	_____	_____	_____
Leah Cooper	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lauren Glover	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rusty Mauldin	_____	_____	_____	_____
Joey Romano	_____	_____	_____	_____
Christopher McCurry	_____	_____	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Tolesia Smith Davis  
 President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Leah Cooper  
 Secretary, Board of Trustees