

No. 65, A.]

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CHAPTER 157.

AN ACT to create 40.065; and to amend 67.04 (6) of the statutes, relating to zones for the safe loading and unloading of pupils at rural schools.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 40.065 of the statutes is created to read:

40.065 SAFETY ZONES. (1) Every school district maintaining a school without the limits of a city or village shall provide at the school site a zone which will provide safety for pupils from vehicular traffic during loading and unloading operations at the school. The zone may consist of a widening toward or into the school yard of the traveled portion of the adjacent highway so as to permit a vehicle to stop in the extended area completely clear of such traveled portion of the adjacent highway, or may be constructed wholly within the school yard with connecting roads to the adjacent highway. The zone and approaches from the highway for use of vehicles shall be graveled or hard-surfaced.

(2) The district shall work in co-operation with the agency of the town, county or state having jurisdiction of the highway to the end that matters pertaining to the highway will be properly protected. Contracts for the necessary materials and construction and maintenance (which shall include snow removal) may be entered into with the county or town, or with private persons; but if the contracting party does not have jurisdiction over the highway, the contract shall be approved by the agency of the state, county or town having jurisdiction over the highway before any work is commenced thereunder.

(3) School district meetings, school boards and all officials of school districts affected by this section shall take such steps within their powers and duties which will provide schools within their districts with safety zones before the beginning of the 1949-1950 school year. When any new school is constructed it shall at the same time be provided with such safety zone.

(4) All loading and unloading of pupils at the school, whether transported by a public or a private vehicle, shall take place in the safety zone. The operator of a vehicle under contract to transport pupils to such school shall have necessary police powers so that pupils will be properly safeguarded in the loading and unloading operations at the zone and also while his vehicle is approaching and leaving the zone. He shall first alight before discharging or receiving pupils at the zone, and while at stops on his highway route to receive and discharge pupils, he shall exhibit the vehicle's stop sign.

SECTION 2. 67.04 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

67.04 (6) By any common school district, consolidated district, state graded school district, free high school district, union free high school district, whether any such district is joint or otherwise, or by any board of education, by whatever name designated, which is especially authorized to issue bonds: To purchase, erect or improve school buildings or teacherages, to acquire schoolhouse or teacherage sites or school playgrounds, and to equip such buildings with heat, light, ventilation or other necessary apparatus; to purchase school transportation vehicles; to refund indebtedness heretofore contracted; *to construct at schools without the limits of cities and villages safety zones and necessary connecting ways or roads to the public highway required by section 40.065*; but no issue of bonds for purchasing a schoolhouse site, a teacherage site, or a school playground, or for purchasing or erecting a teacherage, or for purchasing school transportation vehicles, shall exceed \$25,000, except in counties containing a population of 150,000 or more, where the limit of indebtedness that may be incurred for the acquisition of a schoolhouse site or addition thereto, is any sum not in excess of an amount certified by the governing body of the town, village or city in which the site is situated as reasonable and necessary for that purpose; and provided that any school district whose territory consists of a city of the fourth class or of a city of the fourth class and a part or the whole of any adjoining town or towns may borrow and issue bonds therefor up to 5 per cent of its assessed valuation for the purpose of purchasing schoolhouse sites and the construction and equipment of schoolhouses.

Approved May 23, 1949.
