



# SUPPORTS



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NYSUT  
800 Troy-Schenectady Road  
Latham, N.Y. 12110-2455  
(518) 213-6000, (800) 342-9810

**Stephen K. Allinger**, *Director of Legislation*

<b>S.3509</b>	<b>Young</b>	<b>On Calendar #1219</b>
<b>A.1520</b>	<b>Magnarelli</b>	<b>Transportation Committee</b>

**PROVISIONS OF BILL:**

This legislation creates the “School Bus Camera Safety Act” to enhance the safety of our children by allowing school buses to be equipped with Stop Arm Cameras to assist in the apprehension of motorists who illegal pass stopped school buses and related provisions

**STATEMENT OF SUPPORT:**

The illegal passing of a school bus is a fatally serious traffic safety matter requiring cooperative efforts of our state, schools and law enforcement partners. Despite educational efforts over the years by organizations like the New York Association for Pupil Transportation, this dangerous behavior of motorists continues and is worsening with the increasing emergence of ‘right side passes’ where motorists pass the school bus between the loading door and the side of the road. This legislation will afford us strong new tools to help in the fight against illegal passing. Specifically, S.3509-A/A.1520-A:

- Authorizes installation of “School Bus Safety Cameras” or video recording devices on school buses, specifically on or near the Stop Arm and authorizes such camera to be eligible for Transportation Aid;
- Allows for school district and school bus contractors to enter;
- Authorizes the use of images collected by those devices to issue summons to motorists who illegally pass stopped school buses;
- Establishes a flat \$250 fine for camera-based violations, while retaining current fines and for violations witnessed by a police officer;
- Provides for reporting requirements to determine the efficiency of the cameras ;
- Provides for the expiration or sunset of the program in September 2021;
- Authorizes school boards to resolve to install cameras on school buses operated in their district;
- Authorizes school districts and related school bus contractors, to enter into agreements with law enforcement agencies relating to execution of the camera program, and to enter into third-party contracts for installation, processing, and administrative functions related to the enforcement process.

**NYSUT STRONGLY URGE THE ENACTMENT OF THIS LEGISLATION.**