



MEMORANDUM

TO: Joseph A. Kirk, Rules Administrator, Ohio Department of Public Safety

FROM: Paula Steele, Common Sense Initiative

DATE: October 11, 2018

RE: **CSI Review – School Bus Minimum Standards 2018 (OAC 4501-5-01 through 4501-5-04)**

On behalf of Lt. Governor Mary Taylor, and pursuant to the authority granted to the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) Office under Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 107.54, the CSI Office has reviewed the abovementioned administrative rule package and associated Business Impact Analysis (BIA). This memo represents the CSI Office's comments to the Agency as provided for in ORC 107.54.

Analysis

This rule package consists of four amended rules proposed by the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) as a five-year rule review as required by ORC 119.04. The draft rules address construction and design standards for pupil transportation vehicles and procedures for requesting alternative equipment uses for approval. There were no public comments received during the public comment period held open from August 23, 2018 through September 17, 2018.

The proposed rules prescribe school bus construction standards, general provisions for new school buses and maintenance, requirements of school buses used to transport students with special needs, and the procedures for obtaining permission to change new or existing equipment. According to the BIA several of the amendments reflect changes in technology subsequent to the five-year review completed in 2013. Other amendments were made to accommodate updates in the manufacturing or dealership process.

The BIA describes a comprehensive stakeholder outreach process in which stakeholders worked together to review the rules and develop full consensus on the proposed amendments and language of the draft rules.

Upon review of the proposed rules and BIA, the CSI Office determined that the rules satisfactorily meet the standards espoused by the CSI Office, and the purpose of the rules justifies the adverse impact identified in the BIA. However, during the review process of the rules, a few minor typos were discovered. The ODPS committed to correcting the typos prior to filing with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.

Recommendations

For the reasons discussed above, the CSI Office does not have any recommendations for this rule package.

Conclusion

Based on the above comments, the CSI Office concludes that the Ohio Department of Public Safety should proceed with the formal filing of this rule package with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.