

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 114-168, Passing School Bus; School Buses Stopping on Multilane Roadway, of the Joplin City Code to delete the language which requires a reference to "City Ordinance" be posted on the rear of the school bus; and to allow peace officers and bus drivers to have complaints issued to registered owners of vehicles seen operated in violation of this section.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI as follows:

Section 1. That Section 114-168, Passing School Buses; School Buses Stopping on Multilane Roadway, of the Joplin City Code be amended to delete the words "City Ordinance" from the second sentence of subsection (b), which will be changed to read as follows:

...(b) Every bus used for the transportation of school children shall bear upon the front and rear thereof a plainly visible sign containing the words "School Bus" in letters not less than eight inches in height. Each bus shall have lettered on the rear in plain and distinct type the following: "Stop while bus is loading and unloading." Each school bus subject to the provisions of this section shall be equipped with a mechanical or electrical signaling device, which will display a signal plainly visible from the front and rear indicating intention to stop.

Section 2. That Section 114-168, Passing School Buses; School Buses Stopping on Multilane Roadway, of the Joplin City Code be amended to add the following subsection:

...(e) If any vehicle is witnessed by a peace officer or the driver of a school bus to have violated the provisions of this section and the identity of the driver is not otherwise apparent, it shall be a rebuttable presumption that the person in whose name such vehicle is registered committed the violation. In the event that charges are filed against multiple owners of a motor vehicle, only one of the owners may be convicted and court costs may be assessed against only one of the owners. If the vehicle which is involved in the violation is registered in the name of a rental or leasing company and the vehicle is rented or leased to another person at the time of the violation, the rental or leasing company may rebut the presumption by providing the peace officer or prosecuting authority with a copy of the rental or lease agreement in effect at the time of the violation. No prosecuting authority may bring any legal proceedings against a rental or leasing company under this section unless prior written notice of the violation has been given to that rental or leasing company by registered mail at the address appearing on the registration and the rental or leasing company has failed to provide the rental or lease agreement copy within fifteen days of receipt of such notice.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, this 19th day of June, 2000.

Darius K. Adams, Mayor

ATTEST: Barbara Hogelin, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: Chuck Brown, City Attorney