



**Board of School Trustees
Mansfield Independent School District**

TITLE: Consideration and Approval of SB 546 Seatbelt Requirement Resolution DATE: 5/26/2026

CONSENT

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 546, passed during the 89th Texas Legislature, strengthens standards for school buses transporting students in Texas. The bill amends Texas Transportation Code §547.701, with the addition of subsection (f), requiring that all school buses operated by or contracted for use by a school district be equipped with three-point seat belts for every passenger, including the driver

CONSIDERATIONS:

Mansfield ISD operates a fleet of 317 buses. Of these, 280 buses are equipped with three-point seatbelts and comply with the requirements of Senate Bill 546. The remaining fleet includes 37 spare buses, consisting of 15 buses with lap belts only and 22 buses without any seatbelts.

To bring these buses into compliance, the estimated cost to retrofit existing buses with appropriate seatbelts is approximately \$355,650. Alternatively, replacing these buses would require an investment of approximately \$6,105,000.

The district is required to prepare a report to be presented to the board during a public meeting. The report will need to include:

1. The number of buses operated by or contracted for use by the district that:
 - a. are not equipped with seat belts;
 - b. are equipped with two-point seat belts;
 - c. are equipped with three-point seat belts; and
2. The estimated cost to the district to equip all buses with three-point seat belts.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends The Board approve the resolution as presented.

If the Board agrees the motion will read; “RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD REGARDING SB 546 SEAT BELT REQUIEREMENTS – FINANCIAL INABILITY DETERMINATION as presented”