



MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Tim Harkrider 

From: Josh Symank, Assistant Superintendent of Operations

Date: 03/02/2026

Subject: Consider possible approval of the submission of estimated compliance costs to retrofit buses with 3-point seat belts as required by Senate Bill 546

Agenda Item: I-1

BACKGROUND

Senate Bill 546, passed during the 89th Regular Legislative Session, is a school safety law that mandates the installation of three-point seat belts on all school buses. The law officially took effect on September 1, 2025. TEA established a deadline of May 29, 2026, for districts to report their current seat belt status and estimated compliance costs. We have until September 1, 2029, to be in complete compliance.

Currently, College Station ISD has 120 total buses in our fleet. Forty-nine buses are without three-point seat belts. However, 30 of those buses will be off cycle within the next two years. This leaves us with 19 buses to retro fit at an approximate cost of \$30k per bus. This results in an estimated costs of \$570,000 that would come from our general budget. TEA has indicated that a grant will be available at a later date and will be monitoring that closely.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the College Station Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the submission of the estimated costs of \$570,000 to retrofit buses with three-point seat belts.