

Define The Goal:

We want to;

- 1) Make it mandatory that any vehicle that uses the Pedestrian Stop Arm Device must use the Pedestrian Stop Arm Device Wind Diverter (PSDWD-10) as standard equipment in order to reduce driver distraction caused by a fluttering Stop Arm.

- 2) Reduce School Bus driver distraction caused by the Pedestrian Stop Arm Device. This device is standard equipment according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. We are concerned about the use of this device because of driver distraction. As the wind gathers behind the Pedestrian Stop Arm device it has a tendency to push against the sign causing it to flutter. This fluttering is a distraction to both the driver of the School Bus and other drivers on the road.

According to a Fact Finding Study (as abstracted from Table (3)) conducted by the FMCSA, research states under the “Odds Ratios” driver distraction likeliness by equipment and looking outside the vehicle is over 10%.

Table 3. Of the FMCSA the Odds Ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals to Assess Likelihood of a Safety-Critical Event While Engaging In Tertiary Tasks for All Events	
TASK	Odds
Complex Tertiary Task Driver Eyes are not facing forward due to driver distractions (other vehicle equipment)	9.93
Moderate Tertiary Task Looking outside vehicle at objects	0.54

- 3) Set a Standard for Safety equipment for the placement and use of the Pedestrian Stop Arm Device used on ALL Non-School Bus vehicles that service children like and/or selling items marketed towards children (ie: Ice Cream trucks). As we all know when hearing the sound of the Ice Cream truck children run from all directions to buy their products. However, the Pedestrian Stop Arm device which alerts other drivers on the road to STOP and watch for children is not uniformed in their

placement nor is it mandatory to be used on all such vehicles when serving children.

NOTES:

<https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/sites/fmcsa.dot.gov/files/docs/DriverDistractionStudy.pdf>

STEP 2. Research Existing Law

The Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration Code governs the requirements concerning the use of School Buses, Signage, Driver Training, Equipment requirements, Inspections schedules, and Code Enforcement Regulations. Please access link below for Guideline Regulations and Manual. (https://search.usa.gov/search?affiliate=dot-fmcsa&sort_by=&query=school+bus)

Currently the law, if any, will affect how we draft our bill. If the FMCSA already have rules and regulations addressing this particular driver distractions we are proposing enforcement of these laws to assist in reducing driver distraction and uniformity in the use and placement of the Pedestrian Stop Arm Device. For example: Any vehicle on the road that transport's or service children and does not use the Pedestrian Stop Arm and the patented Pedestrian Stop Arm Wind Diverter , we might want to make the existing law stricter and enforceable to bring such vehicles into compliance in an effort to reduce driver distraction caused by a fluttering Stop Arm.

Currently as it stands, we have not found any existing law against the use of a wind diverter that prevent the wind from gathering behind the Stop Arm device thereby causing it not to flutter in the wind. Therefore we will draft a bill to make it a safety violation to not have the patented PSDWD-10 as standard safety equipment for the above mentioned vehicles as a means to reduce driver distraction caused by the fluttering and uniformity in its use and placement on all non-school bus vehicles.

STEP 3. Act

An Act creates a new law or modifies an existing law. A Resolution expresses the General Assembly's opinion and doesn't create or modify a law.

- I. We are creating a law against Pedestrian Stop Arm Devices being a distraction to the School Bus Driver and others on the road.
- II. We are creating a law that would enable uniformity of a standard piece of equipment which helps reduce driver distraction.
- III. We are creating a law against the haphazard way that Ice Cream truck owners take serious their responsibility for keeping the children safe when visiting the trucks and alerting other drivers on the road that they are servicing children.
- IV. We are creating a law against the use of Stop Arm wind diverters that do not prevent the wind from gathering behind the Stop Arm thereby preventing it to flutter in the wind.

Therefore we are drafting an Act to ensure adherence and compliance to this law due to the driver distraction and safety issues concerning our children when they ride the school bus to and from School sponsored events. In addition, we are drafting an Act to ensure uniformity with the use of the Stop Arm Wind Diverter.

We wanted to express our disapproval of driver distraction caused by the fluttering of the Stop Arm currently used on School Buses and the Non-Uniformity of the use and placement of this Stop Arm equipment on Non-School Bus vehicles. If we do not make it illegal to operate the vehicle without adherence to this Act we would not be due our part to help reduce driver distraction on the road and keeping our children safe when visiting the Ice Cream truck.

STEP 4. Bill Title:

Children Transportation Driver Distraction Safety Bill
PSDWD-10 and ICTU-10
(Pedestrian Stop Arm Wind Diverter -10 and Ice Cream Truck Uniformity)

An Act to prohibit the use of the Pedestrian Stop Arm Device without the Patented Approved Wind Diverter which is design to reduce and in some cases prevent the wind from gathering behind and pushing against the Stop Sign thereby causing it to flutter and to provide fines when not in compliance.

An Act to establish uniformity for the use and placement of the Pedestrian Stop Arm Device on all non-school bus vehicle that service/sell to children (ice cream truck) and to provide fines when not in compliance.

We aren't changing an existing law in our example, so none is mentioned in the title (also known as a caption). We can refer to an existing law by its Code section. If we were amending an existing law, we would add a phrase like this to the title:

STEP 5. Preamble

WHEREAS, we all must play our part in reducing driver distraction we believe that through the passing of the Bill it will assist the already we trained school bus driver in managing road distraction by ensuring them and other drivers that the equipment on the School Bus is safe and is working to reduce distraction that may play their vision away from the front of the bus and

WHEREAS, other drivers will not be distracted by the fluttering of the Stop Sign believing that the equipment may be faulty and

WHEREAS, there will be uniformity in the Stop Arm because all devices will have a uniformed approved Wind Diverter which will help prevent driver distraction and,

WHEREAS, there will be uniformity in all non-school bus vehicles as they will have regulations regarding placement and use of the device and,

WHEREAS, our children will be safer going to the Ice Cream Truck because safety steps taken to ensure compliance and,

WHEREAS, our children will learn to wait on the Stop Arm to open before running to the Ice Cream Truck therefore,

STEP 6. Enacting

BE IT ENACTED BY THE # _____ GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE MICHIGAN INTERCOLLEGIATE STATE LEGISLATURE:

Why Should I Support "Bill"

