

RESOLUTION NO. 20150402-021

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is committed to providing a safe environment for children riding school buses to and from school; and

WHEREAS, the City's Child Safety Program assists elementary school children across major intersections and streets on their way to and from school; and

WHEREAS, recent efforts have included reducing speed limits around schools, increasing Austin Police Department presence near bus stops to enforce the current criminal laws in place, and enhancing citizen awareness about the need to follow these traffic rules; and

WHEREAS, despite the City's ongoing programs and new initiatives, motor vehicles continue to illegally pass school buses actively loading and unloading students, thereby endangering students and other road users; and

WHEREAS, several cities have implemented systems utilizing multiple cameras and real-time analysis to issue civil penalties to those who violate the law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes a program providing for photographic enforcement and administrative adjudication of school bus stop arm violations and imposition of civil fines for those violations could reduce the number of motor vehicles unlawfully passing a stopped school bus, furthering public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20121108-049 directed the City Manager to study the feasibility of a new civil penalty ordinance for unlawfully passing a stopped school bus; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

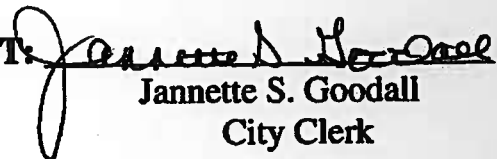
The City Manager is directed to return to council with an ordinance for consideration that creates a civil penalty for unlawfully passing a school bus in time for enactment by the beginning of the 2015-2016 public school term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is further directed to provide that ordinance to the Public Safety Committee prior to its council scheduling for its review and recommendation.

ADOPTED: April 2, 2015

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk