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Signs on Vehicles Transporting Children**

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Standards for the Construction and Attachment of Portable Signs on Vehicles Transporting Children

Sec. 14-280-1. Construction of portable signs

A portable sign permitted or required to be used when transporting children in a motor vehicle in accordance with Section 14-280 (a) of the General Statutes shall be constructed of a planar, non-frangible material which is sufficiently rigid that it will not bend, deform or incline when attached to a motor vehicle traveling at highway speeds, shall not have sharp edges, and shall be mounted to the motor vehicle in a manner capable of withstanding a wind of 50 miles per hour without separating from the motor vehicle when the vehicle is traveling at highway speeds. Perforations may be made in a sign to reduce wind resistance if such perforations do not interfere with the visibility of the words on the sign.

(Effective August 29, 1990)

Sec. 14-280-2. Attachment of portable signs

(a) A portable sign constructed in accordance with Section 14-280-1 of these regulations shall be mounted securely on or above the roof of the motor vehicle perpendicular to the sides of the vehicle and when in use extend vertically upward from a horizontal plane defining the vehicle roof in a manner that permits the words on the portable sign to be clearly visible to the operators of other vehicles at a distance of between fifteen (15) feet and two hundred (200) feet on a straight line to the front and rear of the motor vehicle. If necessary to provide the required visibility, a second portable sign may be mounted on the roof of the vehicle, or on the rear of the vehicle as permitted in Section 14-280-3 (a).

(b) Any mounting brackets, straps, clamps or mounting hardware used to secure a portable sign to a vehicle shall not interfere with normal window or door operation of the vehicle, shall be of sufficient strength to withstand the load applied thereto by the sign, and shall not pose a danger to or interfere with the occupants of the vehicle. Suction cups, magnets or other easily detached devices shall not be used unless in addition to secure mounting hardware. A portable sign may be screwed, bolted or otherwise fixedly secured to a vehicle in a manner that will permit its removal. A layer of protective or non-slip material may be used between a portable sign and/or its mounting hardware and the surface of a motor vehicle.

(Effective August 29, 1990)

Sec. 14-280-3. Sign requirements

(a) A portable sign shall be placed at a height of at least four (4) feet above ground level and display the words "CARRYING SCHOOL CHILDREN" in black lettering at least three (3) inches high on a yellow background. The lettering may be painted on the sign, or the lettering may be applied to the sign by a permanent decal. The words "STOP" or "STOP ON SIGNAL" shall not be used on a portable sign. A portable sign shall not be mounted below the windshield of a vehicle, or on the hood or the rear of a vehicle, except that to provide the required visibility required by Section 14-280-2 (a) a second portable sign may be mounted securely on the rear of a vehicle if the sign does not pose a danger to persons or property, or does not interfere with the driver's vision or with ingress or egress to the vehicle.

(b) When a motor vehicle is being used for purposes other than transporting school children, portable sign(s) shall be removed, completely covered, folded or otherwise concealed so that the words displayed thereon are not visible to the operators of other vehicles.

(Effective August 29, 1990)