



Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation

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The Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation (VAPT) respectfully offers the following resolution in support of allocation of funds concerning the Volkswagen anti-trust lawsuit.

WHEREAS: The pupil transportation department of the local school divisions throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia are dedicated to providing the safest and most efficient transportation for all students; and

WHEREAS: One school bus carries the equivalent of 36 cars each day; and

WHEREAS: More than 17,000 buses transport more than 800,000 students to and from school each day in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Each year these buses travel approximately 131,254,000 miles over the roads of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS: School buses are designed and constructed with numerous safety features, the school bus industry works continuously to incorporate the latest technology, training and testing to keep students safe; and

WHEREAS: The cost of school buses sold in the Commonwealth of Virginia has been increasing steadily for the last 10 years due to environmental regulations, required safety features and material costs; and

WHEREAS: The downturn of the economy of the last several years has left many school divisions short of available funds to purchase new school buses which meet environmental and new safety regulations; and

WHEREAS: As prices for new school buses continue to rise, this will cause many localities to purchase fewer buses, thus, leaving older buses on the roads with engines that do not meet current emissions and safety standards; and

WHEREAS: The lawsuit against Volkswagen concerned their vehicles which did not meet current emissions standards. Allocating funds to Virginia localities would help take buses off the road that do not meet present clean air standards and do not have the latest safety features for our students; and

WHEREAS: These funds would allow the various localities the flexibility to purchase new buses that they might not have available through their normal budget process; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED: The Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation (VAPT) does hereby, respectfully ask, that funds from the State of Virginia portion of the settlement be allocated to the various localities for the purchase of new school buses.

Given under my hand this twenty-seventh day in the year two thousand seventeen.

Michael Ashby
Chairman, VAPT Legislative Committee