

# School Bus Safety is Our RIGHT

## The Law Protects US



School bus drivers have a federally protected right to speak out about safety concerns. We are a special class of workers protected by "whistleblower" laws.

### **YOUR RIGHTS:**

- To voice safety concerns to management;
- To talk to coworkers about issues of school bus safety; and
- To inform the public of school bus safety concerns.

If you take part in your legally protected right to speak up about school bus safety violations, it is illegal for the company to fire, lay off, demote, make threats, deny overtime, deny a promotion or benefits, or otherwise retaliate against you for speaking up.

Safety concerns may include vehicle maintenance such as brake safety, lighting, tires and time for pre-trip inspections.

Under the law, the company cannot terminate or retaliate against you for refusing to drive a bus that is unsafe.

Don't be afraid to speak up. Our kids are counting on us. And the Teamsters have our back.

The best way to guarantee that safety comes first in your yard is through a union contract.

Teamster contracts for school bus workers have included strong and specific safety protections. Teamster local unions enforce these legally binding contracts and hold school bus companies accountable to these high safety standards.

To learn more about your rights, go to [www.teamster.org/whistleblower](http://www.teamster.org/whistleblower). Here you will find additional information about the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Whistleblower Protection Program and how to file a complaint.

**For more whistleblower information, including fact sheets, go to [www.whistleblowers.gov](http://www.whistleblowers.gov).**

**For additional questions, call our Drive Up Standards hotline at 866-832-6787.**



**Drive Up  
Standards**

School Bus and Transit Workers United

[www.driveupstandards.org](http://www.driveupstandards.org)  
[www.teamster.org](http://www.teamster.org)