



February 27, 2023

TO: Members, House Transportation Policy and Finance Committee
FROM: John Thomas, President, Minnesota Association for Pupil Transportation
RE: Support for SF 1032—Repeal of Required Retirement of Type III Vehicles

The Minnesota Association for Pupil Transportation (MAPT) strongly supports HF 1032, Senator John Jasinski’s bill that would eliminate the requirement that Type III vehicles—typically cars and vans—be retired after 12 years of service in a school district fleet. Language in last year’s omnibus transportation bill would have extended vehicle life to 13 years of service, but the bill was never passed. Supply chain issues resulting from industry slowdowns during the pandemic and the decision by auto manufacturers to discontinue certain lines of vehicles have left school districts in a difficult position as they are forced to retire needed vehicles without being able to easily obtain ready replacements for these vehicles.

Rather than enact another one-year extension or other time-limited extension, MAPT believes that the preferred route is that which is outlined in SF 1032. Under SF 1032, vehicles could remain in service provided the vehicle would pass an annual inspection performed by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. MAPT believes that would ensure that vehicles in use are safe and meet the requirements set forth under Minnesota statute and rule while providing school districts with the flexibility needed to transport students to the multitude of school-related activities for which Type III vehicles are used.

MAPT is dedicated to providing safe transportation of students throughout the state and firmly believes that Minnesota’s exemplary record of school transportation safety will not be eroded by the passage of SF 1032.

If you have questions regarding this issue or others relating to school transportation, contact MAPT’s lobbyist Brad Lundell and either (612)-220-7459 or lundelllegislative31@gmail.com