

**Division Of State Patrol
Informational Memorandum**

6-99-6

**Tab 4
School Bus Inspection Manual**

TOPIC: Air Conditioning

Background: Trans. 300.81(5) allows air conditioning units to be installed as long as the units are approved for installation. Questions have arisen as to what are the requirements of an approved system.

Decision: The intent of this section was to assure that if a unit were installed in the interior of the school bus it would not interfere with the emergency exits or potentially cause an injury. Items to consider would be that the edges are rounded or padded so as not to injure a student if bumped. The unit shall not interfere with an emergency exit by encroaching into the required parallelepiped of the rear emergency exit door found in FMVSS 217 and referenced in Memorandum 6-99-1. Another consideration is that the air conditioning unit shall not obstruct the identifying lettering of an emergency exit or the red light that denotes an emergency exit during the hours of darkness. These items listed are points of concern and may not be the only limiting factors for approval of a system.

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