

**Division Of State Patrol
Informational Memorandum**

6-99-4

**Manual Tab 4
School Bus Inspection Manual**

Topic: Allocated Space for Wheel Chair Locations

Issue: Lack of uniformity in the inspection process as a result of unclear language in Trans 300 has resulted in many questions being asked about this issue. The national school bus standard recommends that an area 30" wide by 48" long be provided for each wheel chair location. Manufacturers at times have indicated they may not meet this requirement therefore losing one wheel chair position in a school bus. This has drastic impacts on long term cost factors which are caused at times by less than an inch measurement.

Decision: The intent of Trans 300 is to assure that the requirements of FMVSS 222 are met as it pertains to wheel anchorages. Several companies have certified that their system meets FMVSS 222 safety standards with the anchorages closer together than the 30"x48" mentioned in the national school bus standard. It is therefore allowed to mount anchorages closer than the national school bus standard as long as the manufacturer certifies that the system does meet S5.4.1 of FMVSS 222. Currently I am aware of the Q Straint system and Ortho Safe companies certify they meet this standard with anchorages closer than 30"x48".

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