



**National Committee on
Uniform Traffic Control Devices**

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RW # 1

**National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
RWSTC RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWING SPONSOR COMMENTS**

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: NCUTCD Regulatory/Warning Signs Technical
Committee**

**DATE OF ACTION: (TASK FORCE) Tom Heydel (Chair), Dan Paddick, Jim
Pline, Mark Bott, Roger Wentz, Andy Ramisch, Dennis Morford, Scott Kuznicki
12-2-07, revised 12-10-07, Revised 12-9-08, Revised 12-22-08, Revised 11-24-09
following rejection by Council in June 2009 due to sign design. Revised 11-30-09,
Revised 12-2-09,
updated to 2009 MUTCD 12-19-09, revised 1-6-2010, REVISED 6-13-10
FOLLOWING SPONSOR COMMENTS**

RWSTC APPROVAL DATE: 1-6-2010

TRANSMITTAL TO SPONSORS DATE: Spring 2010

RWSTC APPROVAL DATE FOLLOWING SPONSOR COMMENTS: 7-1-10

COUNCIL APPROVAL DATE: 7-2-10

TOPIC: Synthesis of Signs, STOP FOR SCHOOL BUSES, SSR 38

**AFFECTED PORTIONS OF MUTCD: Section 7B.13, Figure 7B-1, and Table 7B-1
(2009 MUTCD)**

DISCUSSION:

The Synthesis of Non-MUTCD Signing (by FHWA) identified seventy-four signs or categories of signs that are not in the MUTCD but were in common use by various States, local governments and Canada. The Synthesis of Non-MUTCD Signing recommended that these signs be considered for inclusion in the MUTCD. Forty two (42) of these signs were Regulatory Signs. The Regulatory and Warning Sign Technical Committee (RWSTC) reviewed 10 of these signs in June 2006 and 10 in January 2007. The remaining 22 signs were reviewed by RWSTC for merit at the June 2007 meeting; and of these, the task force was charged with providing new language to the MUTCD for 6 of the 22 for consideration by RWSTC at the January 2008 meeting. The Stop for School Buses sign is one of these 6 under consideration.

- **SSR-38 STOP FOR SCHOOL BUSES**



Recommended design S5-XX

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49 The actual design of the sign will be finalized by FHWA to determine.

50 the appropriate layout and text size for proper readability

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52 At least 22 States use signs to remind road users of the State law requirement to stop for
 53 school buses loading or unloading children. The legends used on these signs vary widely.
 54 The action messages include Stop for , Stop When”, “Stop While”, and Unlawful to Pass.
 55 The condition for which a stop is required may be termed “Stopped School Bus”, “School
 56 Bus Stops”, “School Bus Loading”, and “School Buses Stopped to Load or Unload”. In
 57 some States, the stop is required when the school bus “Red Lights Flash”, “Flashing Red
 58 Lights “Red Lights Flashing”, “Signals Flash Red”, or “Signals Are in Operation”.

59

60 Recommendation: Add a sign with legend, stating, “Stop for School Bus With Flashing
 61 Red Lights.

62

63 This sign provides a regulatory aspect to school bus stops to remind drivers of the
 64 regulation where compliance is a problem. The sign will provide additional emphasis
 65 along sections of roadway that have may have a particularly high incidence of drivers
 66 passing stop school buses when the school bus lights are flashing.

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68 Since the sign relates to school buses, and the warning sign (S3-1) is already contained in
 69 Part 7 of the MUTCD, the regulatory sign similar to the S3-1 should be in Part 7, Section
 70 7B.13.

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72

73 **RECOMMENDATION: Add a S5-XX regulatory sign to Section 7B.13 to provide**
 74 **for a regulation sign to provide for sections of roadway where the warning sign (S3-**
 75 **1) would be overused. Add sign to figure 7B-1 and table 7B-1.**

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78 Note: Proposed changes to the 2009 MUTCD are shown in underline red and
79 removed text are shown in ~~strikethrough red~~.

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81 **RECOMMENDED WORDING:**

82 **Section 7B.13 School Bus Stop Ahead Sign (S3-1, S5-XX)**

83

84 *Guidance:*

85 *The School Bus Stop Ahead (S3-1) sign (see Figure 7B-1) should be installed in advance of*
86 *locations where a school bus, when stopped to pick up or discharge passengers, is not visible to*
87 *road users for an adequate distance and where there is no opportunity to relocate the school bus*
88 *stop to provide adequate sight distance.*

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90 Option:

91 A “STOP FOR SCHOOL BUS WITH FLASHING RED LIGHTS” (S5-XX)
92 sign may be used to remind drivers of the requirement to stop for school buses when
93 the flashing red lights on the school bus are in operation, at locations where
94 compliance is a problem.

95 The legend “STATE LAW” may be used with white letters on black background
96 on the top line of the sign.

97

98 Support:

99 A “STOP FOR SCHOOL BUS WITH FLASHING RED LIGHTS” (S5-XX) sign
100 is typically used where special regulatory emphasis is needed.

101

102 Figure 7B-1 – Add S5-XX, STOP FOR SCHOOL BUS WITH FLASHING RED
103 LIGHTS as shown above.

104

105 Table 7B-1 – Add S5-XX as shown above.

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108 **RWSTC VOTE:**

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110 For: 20

111 Opposed: 2

112 Abstentions:

113

114 **COUNCIL VOTE:** For: Unanimous

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117 C: ncutcd/june 2010 meetings/ ssr-38, stop for school buses RW # 1 (June 2010) 5-24-
118 09, revised 5-26-09, revised 11-24-09, revised 11-30-09, revised 12-2-09, updated 12-19-
119 09, revised 1-6-2010, revised 6-13-10, revised 7-1-10

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