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State of Minnesota HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 540

February 1, 2007

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Transportation Finance Division

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to transportation; requiring commissioner of public safety to accept
1.3 Federal Aviation Administration medical certificate for school bus driver physical
1.4 exam; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 171.321, subdivision 2.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 171.321, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 2. Rules. (a) The commissioner of public safety shall prescribe rules
1.8 governing the physical qualifications of school bus drivers and tests required to obtain
1.9 a school bus endorsement. The rules must provide that an applicant for a school
1.10 bus endorsement or renewal is exempt from the physical qualifications and medical
1.11 examination required to operate a school bus upon providing evidence of being medically
1.12 examined and certified within the preceding 24 months as physically qualified to operate a
1.13 commercial motor vehicle, pursuant to Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 391,
1.14 subpart E, or rules of the commissioner of transportation incorporating those federal
1.15 regulations. The commissioner shall accept current Federal Aviation Administration
1.16 medical certificates and physical examinations for school bus drivers conducted by
1.17 medical examiners authorized as provided by Code of Federal Regulations, title 49,
1.18 chapter 3, part 391, subpart E.

1.19 (b) The commissioner of public safety, in conjunction with the commissioner of
1.20 education, shall adopt rules prescribing a training program for Head Start bus drivers. The
1.21 program must provide for initial classroom and behind-the-wheel training, and annual
1.22 in-service training. The program must provide training in defensive driving, human
1.23 relations, emergency and accident procedures, vehicle maintenance, traffic laws, and use
1.24 of safety equipment. The program must provide that the training will be conducted by the

- 2.1 contract operator for a Head Start agency, the Head Start grantee, a licensed driver training
- 2.2 school, or by another person or entity approved by both commissioners.