



NYAPT

NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

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Our future is riding with us!

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SURVEY: 24,000 ILLEGAL PASSES IN ONE DAY!

The New York Association for Pupil Transportation today released the results of a survey taken on January 20, 2016, to measure the incidence of motorists illegally passing stopped school buses.

In the **29** school districts that participated, **1,057** school bus drivers reported that they were passed a total of **504** times, including **21** passes on the passenger side of the school bus.

At that rate of passing when applied to over 50,000 school buses in New York State, the total estimated illegal passing rate is **23,841 passes** for that day. Since October 2015 when NYAPT started conducting these surveys, the results have been as follows:

 October 2015:	19,129
 November 2015:	30,735
 December 2015:	32,456
 January 2016:	23,841

Of significant concern is the fact that, when calculated statewide, there were **993 'right side' passes** endangering the children as they boarded and left their school buses.

NYAPT President, David Adam, noted that "We really have a problem here in New York. Our children are AT RISK of being injured or killed by passing motorists! Our bus drivers see this every day and they know how our children are being endangered. And the number of right-side passes is just unacceptable! All of us need to do better than this for those kids!"

As part of its response to this on-going and high-risk problem, NYAPT is seeking legislation that will allow cameras to be mounted on the STOP ARMS of school buses and the evidence from those cameras to be used to prosecute motorists who pass stopped school buses illegally.

NYAPT Executive Director, Peter Mannella, noted: "Month after month, we have shared with the public the rate at which motorists are blowing by our school buses here in New York. This can't go on without some increased apprehension and penalties. We urge the state legislature and the Governor to enact legislation that will allow Stop Arm Cameras to identify motorists who pass our stopped school buses and to allow tickets to be issued based on those images. But mostly, we need for motorists to simply obey the law: STOP FOR THE BUS! It's all for the safety of our children!"

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