

## The Institute of Transportation Engineers Traffic Engineering Council

presents TIPS on



**Bus Signs** 

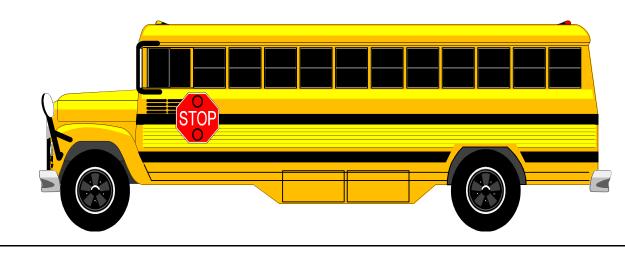
## What is the law concerning school buses?

School buses can be identified by their unique yellow/orange color; black "SCHOOL BUS" and number or district markings in black; and the red and yellow (and now strobe) lights at the top of the bus.

When meeting a school bus with *red* flashing lights, you must stop when approaching the bus from either direction. School bus drivers usually flash yellow warning lights before stopping to load or unload passengers; when you see them, slow down and prepare to stop. Once

stopped for a school bus, you may not proceed until the red lights stop flashing or until a traffic officer waves you on.

If you are driving on a separate roadway from the one the school bus is on, you do not need to stop when passing or meeting a school bus. Also, you don't have to stop if you are traveling on a controlled access highway and the school bus is stopped in a loading zone which is part of or adjacent to the highway and where pedestrians are not allowed to cross the roadway.



## Why include this?

The School Bus Stop Ahead sign may be used when a school bus stopped to load or unload passengers is not visible for a distance of 500 feet in advance. This sign is not intended for use everywhere a school bus stops: it should be used *only* where terrain and roadway features limit the sight distance and where there is no opportunity to relocate the stop to another location with adequate visibility.

