

**TITLE 3: HUMAN RESOURCES**  
**DIVISION 1: EDUCATION**

**§ 1152. Transportation.**

(a) The board shall provide safe, adequate transportation to and from school for special education, preschool, elementary and secondary students of the Commonwealth who reside beyond a reasonable distance from the school they attend which shall be determined by the board. These students must be registered in a public school or nonpublic school. The students must also be enrolled as full-time day students, except that the board may provide such transportation to other students.

(b) The board shall adopt such policies, procedures, and programs as necessary to implement subsection (a) of this section.

**Source:** PL 6-10, § 1 (§ 1551); subsection (a) amended by PL 11-32, § 5.

**Commission Comment:** PL 11-32, which amended subsection (a) of this section, took effect on September 1, 1998. Section 1 of PL 11-32 contained a statement of purpose which read as follows:

Section 1. Statement of Purpose. The Legislature finds that the CNMI's non-public schools are a valuable asset to the Commonwealth. Non-public schools currently serve over 3,000 of our children who would otherwise be enrolled in the already overcrowded public school system. In addition, we anticipate that the number of children enrolled in both school systems will continue to rise. This law allows non-public schools and their teachers and librarians to act in an independent manner and allows the Board of Education to focus their energies and resources on their primary area of responsibility, the public school system.

The Legislature further finds that the government's interest of ensuring that the well-being of its citizens is protected in the basic areas of health, safety, minimum core curriculum, length of school year, and teacher certification standards can be accomplished without having to charter non public schools.

Furthermore, the Legislature finds that if private school teachers and librarians are removed from the certification process there no longer exists a reason to have the Board of Education issue teacher and librarian certificates. The Legislature finds that transferring the authority to certify public school teachers and librarians and the authority to revoke certification to the Commissioner of Education will enable the Public School System to improve its ability to track certification and employment.