

Legislative and Regulatory Landscape

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Current Federal Legislation

- H.R. 6016, the Bus Operator and Pedestrian Protection Act, by Congresswoman Grace F. Napolitano (D-El Monte).
 - Implementation of bus operator assault mitigation plans that include protective shields, de-escalation training, and other measures to improve visibility and driving functions.
- H.R. 5857, the Stop Sexual Assault and Harassment in Transportation Act, by Congressman Peter Defazio (D-Oregon).
 - Development of a formal policy that includes a prohibition order on future travel, de-escalation training, and improved reporting procedures.
- S. 2861, the Passenger Rail Crew Protection Parity Act, by Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-Illinois).
 - Encourages de-escalation training and improved reporting procedures.

Enacted State Legislation

■ Prohibition Orders

- AB 468 (Chapter 192, Statutes of 2017), by Assembly Member Santiago:

- Provides Los Angeles County Metropolitan Authority with the authority to issue prohibition orders to disruptive passengers.

- AB 730 (Chapter 46, Statutes of 2017) by Assembly Member Quirk:

- Provides the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District with permanent authority to issue prohibition orders for various offenses.

■ Procurement

- AB 673 (Chapter 126, Statutes of 2017), by Assembly Member Chu:

- Consideration of additional safety features prior to the procurement of new transit buses.

Rulemakings

- Federal Transit Administration
 - Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Final Rule
 - Requires transit agencies to develop and implement safety plans based on Safety Management System principles.
 - Effective July 19, 2019
 - Public Safety Initiative Funding Opportunity
 - Emphasis on operator assaults, human trafficking, and other criminal activity.
 - Notice of funding opportunity expected to be issued soon.

Looking Ahead

- Increased focus on prohibition orders, de-escalation training, reporting procedures, and safety requirements on transit buses.
- Federal legislation is still pending, and could potentially be added to a larger infrastructure package.
- OCTA is testing video monitors and coach operator barriers on several buses, and may consider broader implementation moving forward.

