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.