

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

3 SENATE BILL NO.648

By: Silk

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to highways; amending 47 O.S. 2011,  
8 Section 11-801, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter  
9 237, O.S.L. 2018 (47 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 11-  
10 801), which relates to speed limits; modifying  
11 maximum speed limits for the turnpike and interstate  
12 highway systems; updating statutory references;  
13 providing an effective date; and declaring an  
14 emergency.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 11-801, as  
17 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 237, O.S.L. 2018 (47 O.S. Supp.  
18 2018, Section 11-801), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 11-801. A. Any person driving a vehicle on a highway  
20 shall drive the same at a careful and prudent speed not greater than  
21 nor less than is reasonable and proper, having due regard to the  
22 traffic, surface and width of the highway and any other conditions  
23 then existing. No person shall drive any vehicle upon a highway at  
24 a speed greater than will permit the driver to bring it to a stop  
25 within the assured clear distance ahead.

1 B. Except when a special hazard exists that requires lower  
2 speed for compliance with subsection A of this section, the limits  
3 specified by law or established as hereinafter authorized shall be  
4 maximum lawful speeds, and no person shall drive a vehicle on a  
5 highway at a speed in excess of the following maximum limits:

6 1. ~~On a highway or part of a highway, unless otherwise~~  
7 ~~established in law, a speed established by the Department of~~  
8 ~~Transportation on the basis of engineering and traffic~~  
9 ~~investigations used to determine the speed that is reasonable and~~  
10 ~~safe under the conditions found to exist on the highway or part of~~  
11 ~~the highway Eighty (80) miles per hour in locations comprising the~~  
12 ~~turnpike system;~~

13 2. Seventy-five (75) miles per hour in locations comprising  
14 rural segments of the interstate highway system, as may be  
15 designated by the Transportation Commission. Provided, however, the  
16 Commission shall determine prior to the designation of such segments  
17 that the public safety will not be jeopardized;

18 3. For a school bus, fifty-five (55) miles per hour on paved  
19 two-lane roads except on the state highway system, the interstate  
20 highway system and the turnpike system where the maximum shall be  
21 sixty-five (65) miles per hour;

22 ~~3.~~ 4. On any highway outside of a municipality in a properly  
23 marked school zone, twenty-five (25) miles per hour, provided the  
24 zone is marked with appropriate warning signs placed in accordance

1 with the latest edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control  
2 Devices. The Department of Transportation may determine on the  
3 basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that a speed limit  
4 higher than twenty-five (25) miles per hour may be reasonable and  
5 safe under conditions as they exist upon a highway, and post an  
6 alternative school zone speed limit. The Department shall mark such  
7 school zones, or entrances and exits onto highways by buses or  
8 students, so that the maximum speed provided by this section shall  
9 be established therein. Exits and entrances to controlled-access  
10 highways which are within such school zones shall be marked in the  
11 same manner as other highways. The county commissioners shall mark  
12 such school zones along the county roads so that the maximum speed  
13 provided by this section shall be established therein. The signs  
14 may be either permanent or temporary. The Department shall give  
15 priority over all other signing projects to the foregoing duty to  
16 mark school zones. The Department shall also provide other safety  
17 devices for school zones which are needed in the opinion of the  
18 Department;

19 ~~4.~~ 5. Twenty-five (25) miles per hour or a posted alternative  
20 school zone speed limit through state schools located on the state-  
21 owned land adjoining or outside the limits of a corporate city or  
22 town where a state educational institution is established;

23 ~~5.~~ 6. Thirty-five (35) miles per hour on a highway in any state  
24 park or wildlife refuge. Provided, however, that the provisions of  
25

1 this paragraph shall not include the State Capitol park area, and no  
2 person shall drive any vehicle at a rate of speed in excess of  
3 fifty-five (55) miles per hour on any state or federal designated  
4 highway within such areas; and

5 ~~6.~~ 7. For any vehicle or combination of vehicles with solid  
6 rubber or metal tires, ten (10) miles per hour.

7 The maximum speed limits set forth in this section may be  
8 altered as authorized in Sections 11-802 and 11-803 of this title.

9 C. The Commission is hereby authorized to prescribe maximum and  
10 minimum speeds for all vehicles and any combinations of vehicles  
11 using controlled-access highways. Such regulations shall become  
12 effective after signs have been posted on these highways giving  
13 notice thereof. Such regulations may apply to an entirely  
14 controlled-access highway or to selected sections thereof as may be  
15 designated by the Commission. It shall be a violation of this  
16 section to drive any vehicle at a faster rate of speed than such  
17 prescribed maximum or at a slower rate of speed than such prescribed  
18 minimum. However, all vehicles shall at all times conform to the  
19 limits set forth in subsection A of this section.

20 Copies of such regulations certified as in effect on any  
21 particular date by the Secretary of the Commission shall be accepted  
22 as evidence in any court in this state. Whenever changes have been  
23 made in speed zones, copies of such regulations shall be filed with  
24 the Commissioner of Public Safety.

1 D. The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is hereby authorized to  
2 prescribe maximum and minimum speeds for trucks, buses and  
3 automobiles using turnpikes. The regulation pertaining to  
4 automobiles shall apply to all vehicles not commonly classified as  
5 either trucks or buses. Such regulations shall become effective  
6 only after approval by the Commissioner of Public Safety, and after  
7 signs have been posted on the turnpike giving notice thereof. Such  
8 regulations may apply to an entire turnpike project or to selected  
9 sections thereof as may be designated by the Oklahoma Turnpike  
10 Authority. It shall be a violation of this section to drive a  
11 vehicle at a faster rate of speed than such prescribed maximum speed  
12 or at a slower rate of speed than such prescribed minimum speed.  
13 However, all vehicles shall at all times conform to the requirements  
14 of subsection A of this section.

15 Copies of such regulations, certified as in effect on any  
16 particular date by the Secretary of the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority,  
17 shall be accepted in evidence in any court in this state.

18 E. The driver of every vehicle shall, consistent with the  
19 requirements of subsection A of this section, drive at an  
20 appropriate reduced speed when approaching and crossing an  
21 intersection or railway grade crossing, when approaching and going  
22 around a curve, when approaching a hillcrest, when driving upon any  
23 narrow or winding roadway, and when special hazard exists with  
24 respect to pedestrians or other traffic, or by reason of weather or

1 highway conditions. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation and  
2 the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority may post, by changeable message sign  
3 or other appropriate sign, a temporary reduced speed limit for  
4 maintenance operations or when special hazards with respect to  
5 pedestrians, other traffic, an accident, by reason of weather or  
6 when other hazardous highway conditions exist.

7 F. 1. No person shall drive a vehicle on a county road at a  
8 speed in excess of fifty-five (55) miles per hour unless posted  
9 otherwise by the board of county commissioners, as provided in  
10 subparagraphs a through c of this paragraph, as follows:

- 11 a. the board of county commissioners may determine, by  
12 resolution, a maximum speed limit which shall apply to  
13 all county roads which are not otherwise posted for  
14 speed,
- 15 b. the board of county commissioners shall provide public  
16 notice of the speed limit on all nonposted roads by  
17 publication in a newspaper of general circulation in  
18 the county. The notice shall be published once weekly  
19 for a period of four (4) continuous weeks, and
- 20 c. the board of county commissioners shall forward the  
21 resolution to the Director of the Department and to  
22 the Commissioner of Public Safety.

23 2. The Department shall post speed limit information, as  
24 determined pursuant to the provisions of subparagraphs a through c

1 of paragraph 1 of this subsection, on the county line marker where  
2 any state highway enters a county and at all off-ramps where  
3 interstate highways or turnpikes enter a county. The signs shall  
4 read as follows:

5 ENTERING \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY  
6 COUNTY ROAD SPEED LIMIT  
7 \_\_\_\_\_ MPH  
8 UNLESS POSTED OTHERWISE

9 The appropriate board of county commissioners shall reimburse  
10 the Department the full cost of the signage required herein.

11 G. Any person convicted of a speeding violation pursuant to  
12 subsection B or F of this section shall be punished by a fine as  
13 follows:

- 14 1. a. For an offense occurring on or after ~~the effective~~  
15 ~~date of this act~~ August 2, 2018, and prior to November  
16 1, 2022, one to ten miles per hour over the speed  
17 limit as provided for in Section ~~2 of this act~~ 11-801e  
18 of this title, and  
19 b. For an offense occurring on or after  
20 November 1, 2022, one to ten miles per  
21 hour over the limit.....\$10.00  
22 2. Eleven to fifteen miles per hour over the  
23 limit.....\$20.00  
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