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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6202

BILL NUMBER: HB 1055

NOTE PREPARED: Nov 20, 2023

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Elimination of Lower Speed Limit for Trucks.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Aylesworth

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill increases the maximum speed limit for a vehicle having a declared gross weight greater than 26,000 pounds from 65 miles per hour to 70 miles per hour when the vehicle is operated on a highway that is: (1) on the national system of interstate and defense highways located outside an urbanized area with a population of at least 50,000; or (2) the responsibility of the Indiana Finance Authority.

The bill also reconciles the conflicting provisions regarding the maximum speed limit in an alley.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary* - This bill will require the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) to remove lower speed limit signs for larger motor vehicles at a one-time maximum cost between approximately \$10,000 and \$12,500. In some cases, signs in good condition could be reused in other areas with 65 miles per hour truck speed limits, potentially resulting in state savings on new signage.

Additionally, this bill could decrease Indiana State Police (ISP) workload to issue citations for violators. Actual decreases in ISP workload are unknown.

Additional Information - The bill increases the speed limit for trucks with declared gross weights of at least 26,000 from 65 miles per hour to 70 miles per hour on roads maintained by the Indiana Finance Authority as well as portions of highway and interstate located outside urbanized areas with at least a population of 50,000 residents (of which there are 17 in the state). Removing all the signs required by the bill is expected to increase one-time INDOT labor expenditures between approximately \$10,000 and \$12,500. These expenditures would come from the State Highway Fund.

There are approximately 124,000 vehicles with weights in excess of 26,000 lbs. registered in the state either through the Bureau of Motor Vehicles or the Department of State Revenue. During FY 2023, there were approximately 77,300 speeding offenses where the offender pleaded guilty (including approximately 1,800 work zone speeding violations). It is not known how many of these offenses were committed by individuals operating vehicles with weights in excess of 26,000 lbs. at speeds between 65 and 70 miles per hour.

Explanation of State Revenues: The penalty for violating speed restrictions for larger motor vehicles is a Class C infraction. By increasing the speed restriction for these vehicles, this bill could decrease the number of Class C infractions in the state. The maximum judgment for a Class C infraction is \$500, which would be deposited in the state General Fund. However, any reduction in revenue is likely to be small.

[The total court fee revenue per case ranges between \$85.50 and \$103. The amount of court fees deposited vary depending on whether the case is filed in a court of record or a municipal court. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in criminal, juvenile, and civil violation cases.](#)]

Explanation of Local Expenditures: By increasing the maximum operational speed for larger motor vehicles, this bill could decrease local law enforcement workload to issue speeding citations.

Explanation of Local Revenues: If there is a reduction in court actions filed where a judgment would have been entered, local governments would receive less revenue from court fees. However, any reduction in revenue is likely to be small.

[If the case is filed in a court of record, the county receives \$33.90 and qualifying municipalities receive a share of \$2.10. If the case is filed in a municipal court, the county receives \$20, and the municipality receives \$33.50. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in criminal, juvenile, and civil violation cases.](#)]

State Agencies Affected: INDOT; ISP.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Bureau of Motor Vehicles registration data; Department of Revenue International Registration Plan registration data; Bureau of Motor Vehicles citation data for FY 2023; Andrea Zimmerman, INDOT.

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