

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED

5 SENATE BILL NO. 322

By: Stanislawski of the Senate

and

Sanders of the House

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10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S.
12 2011, Sections 11-801 and 11-806, which relate to
13 speed limitations; authorizing temporary reduced
14 speed limit by certain signs; amending 47 O.S. 2011,
15 Section 14-101, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 227,
16 O.S.L. 2012 (47 O.S. Supp. 2014, Section 14-101),
17 which relates to annual overweight permits;
18 implementing certain gross weight limit; providing
19 exception; providing an effective date; and declaring
20 an emergency.

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

22 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 11-801, is
23 amended to read as follows:

24 Section 11-801. A. Any person driving a vehicle on a highway
shall drive the same at a careful and prudent speed not greater than
nor less than is reasonable and proper, having due regard to the
traffic, surface and width of the highway and any other conditions

1 then existing. No person shall drive any vehicle upon a highway at
2 a speed greater than will permit the driver to bring it to a stop
3 within the assured clear distance ahead.

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

9 1. Seventy-five (75) miles per hour in locations comprising:

- 10 a. the turnpike system, and
- 11 b. rural segments of the interstate highway system, as
- 12 may be designated by the Transportation Commission.
- 13 Provided, however, the Commission shall determine
- 14 prior to the designation of such segments that the
- 15 public safety will not be jeopardized;

16 2. Seventy (70) miles per hour in locations which are:

- 17 a. four-lane divided highways including, but not limited
- 18 to, the interstate highway system, and
- 19 b. super two-lane highways. As used in this section, a
- 20 super two-lane highway shall mean any two-lane highway
- 21 with designated passing lanes, and consisting of paved
- 22 shoulders not less than eight (8) feet in width;

23 3. Sixty-five (65) miles per hour in other locations;

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1 4. For a school bus, fifty-five (55) miles per hour on paved
2 two-lane highways except on multilane divided highways, turnpikes,
3 and interstate highways where the maximum shall be sixty-five (65)
4 miles per hour;

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

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

7 7. Thirty-five (35) miles per hour on a highway in any state
8 park or wildlife refuge. Provided, however, that the provisions of
9 this paragraph shall not include the State Capitol park area, and no
10 person shall drive any vehicle at a rate of speed in excess of
11 fifty-five (55) miles per hour on any state or federal designated
12 highway within such areas; and

13 8. For any vehicle or combination of vehicles with solid rubber
14 or metal tires, ten (10) miles per hour.

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

17 C. The Commission is hereby authorized to prescribe maximum and
18 minimum speeds for all vehicles and any combinations of vehicles
19 using controlled-access highways. Such regulations shall become
20 effective after signs have been posted on these highways giving
21 notice thereof. Such regulations may apply to an entirely
22 controlled-access highway or to selected sections thereof as may be
23 designated by the Commission. It shall be a violation of this
24 section to drive any vehicle at a faster rate of speed than such

1 prescribed maximum or at a slower rate of speed than such prescribed
2 minimum. However, all vehicles shall at all times conform to the
3 limits set forth in subsection A of this section.

4 Copies of such regulations certified as in effect on any
5 particular date by the Secretary of the Commission shall be accepted
6 as evidence in any court in this state. Whenever changes have been
7 made in speed zones, copies of such regulations shall be filed with
8 the Commissioner of Public Safety.

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

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

4 E. The driver of every vehicle shall, consistent with the
5 requirements of subsection A of this section, drive at an
6 appropriate reduced speed when approaching and crossing an
7 intersection or railway grade crossing, when approaching and going
8 around a curve, when approaching a hillcrest, when driving upon any
9 narrow or winding roadway, and when special hazard exists with
10 respect to pedestrians or other traffic, or by reason of weather or
11 highway conditions. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation and
12 the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority may post, by changeable message sign
13 or other appropriate sign, a temporary reduced speed limit for
14 maintenance operations or when special hazards with respect to
15 pedestrians, other traffic, an accident, by reason of weather or
16 when other hazardous highway conditions exist.

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

- 21 a. the board of county commissioners may determine, by
22 resolution, a maximum speed limit which shall apply to
23 all county roads which are not otherwise posted for
24 speed,

1 b. the board of county commissioners shall provide public
2 notice of the speed limit on all nonposted roads by
3 publication in a newspaper of general circulation in
4 the county. The notice shall be published once weekly
5 for a period of four (4) continuous weeks, and

6 c. the board of county commissioners shall forward the
7 resolution to the Director of the Department and to
8 the Commissioner of Public Safety.

9 2. The Department shall post speed limit information, as
10 determined pursuant to the provisions of subparagraphs a through c
11 of paragraph 1 of this subsection, on the county line marker where
12 any state highway enters a county and at all off-ramps where
13 interstate highways or turnpikes enter a county. The signs shall
14 read as follows:

15 ENTERING _____ COUNTY
16 COUNTY ROAD SPEED LIMIT
17 _____ MPH
18 UNLESS POSTED OTHERWISE

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

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

24 1. One to ten miles per hour over the limit..... \$10.00

- 1 2. Eleven to fifteen miles per hour over the
- 2 limit..... \$20.00
- 3 3. Sixteen to twenty miles per hour over the
- 4 limit..... \$35.00
- 5 4. Twenty-one to twenty-five miles per hour over
- 6 the limit..... \$75.00
- 7 5. Twenty-six to thirty miles per hour over the
- 8 limit..... \$135.00
- 9 6. Thirty-one to thirty-five miles per hour over
- 10 the limit..... \$155.00
- 11 7. Thirty-six miles per hour or more over the
- 12 limit..... \$205.00

13 or by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) days; for a second
 14 conviction within one (1) year after the first conviction, by
 15 imprisonment for not more than twenty (20) days; and upon a third or
 16 subsequent conviction within one (1) year after the first
 17 conviction, by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or by
 18 both such fine and imprisonment.

19 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 11-806, is
 20 amended to read as follows:

21 Section 11-806. A. No person shall drive a vehicle over any
 22 bridge or other elevated structure constituting a part of a highway
 23 at a speed which is greater than the maximum speed which can be
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1 maintained with safety to the bridge or structure, when the
2 structure is signposted as provided in this section.

3 B. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation and local
4 authorities may conduct an investigation of any bridge or other
5 elevated structure constituting a part of a highway, and if they
6 shall thereupon find that the structure cannot, with safety to
7 itself, withstand vehicles driving at speeds otherwise permissible
8 under ~~this act~~ Section 1-101 et seq. of this title, they shall
9 determine and declare the maximum speed of vehicles which the
10 structure can safely withstand, and may cause and permit suitable
11 signs stating the maximum speed to be erected and maintained at a
12 distance of one hundred feet before each end of the structure.

13 C. Where any state or federal highway or turnpike shall be
14 under construction, maintenance, or repair or when a detour shall
15 have been designated by reason of construction, maintenance, or
16 repairs in progress and a maximum safe, careful, and prudent speed
17 shall have been determined by the Oklahoma Department of
18 Transportation on the highway or highway detour or by the Oklahoma
19 Transportation Authority on the turnpike or turnpike detour during
20 the period of the construction, maintenance, or repairs and shall
21 have plainly posted by changeable message or other appropriate sign
22 at each terminus thereof and at not less than each half mile along
23 the route thereof the determined maximum speed, no person shall
24 drive any vehicle upon the portion of the highway or the highway

1 detour or upon the portion of the turnpike or the turnpike detour at
2 a speed in excess of the speed so determined and posted. Violation
3 of the posted speed limit in the repair, maintenance, or
4 construction zone shall result in the doubling of the appropriate
5 fine. For purposes of this section, "repair, maintenance, or
6 construction zone" means any location where repair, maintenance, or
7 construction work is actually in progress and workers present.

8 D. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the Oklahoma
9 Turnpike Authority may post, by changeable message sign or other
10 appropriate sign, a temporary reduced speed limit for special
11 hazards with respect to pedestrians, other traffic, an accident, by
12 reason of weather or when other hazardous highway conditions exist.

13 E. Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation of
14 this section, proof of the determination of the maximum speed by the
15 Department of Transportation or by the Oklahoma Transportation
16 Authority and the existence of the signs shall constitute conclusive
17 evidence of the maximum speed which can be maintained with safety as
18 provided in subsections B ~~and~~, C and D of this section.

19 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 14-101, as
20 amended by Section 2, Chapter 227, O.S.L. 2012 (47 O.S. Supp. 2014,
21 Section 14-101), is amended to read as follows:

22 Section 14-101. A. It is a misdemeanor for any person to drive
23 or move or for the owner to cause or knowingly permit to be driven
24 or moved on any highway any vehicle or vehicles of a size or weight

1 exceeding the limitations stated in this chapter or otherwise in
2 violation of this chapter, and the maximum size and weight of
3 vehicles herein specified shall be lawful throughout this state and
4 local authorities shall have no power or authority to alter the
5 limitations except as express authority may be granted in this
6 chapter.

7 B. The Commissioner of Public Safety is directed to issue
8 annual overweight permits to:

9 1. Municipalities and rural fire districts for the
10 transportation of firefighting apparatus at no cost to the
11 municipalities or rural fire districts;

12 2. Owners of implements of husbandry, which includes tractors
13 that are temporarily moved upon a highway at no cost to the owner;

14 3. Retail implement dealers while hauling implements of
15 husbandry at no cost to the dealer; and

16 4. Owners of certain vehicles as provided for in Section 14-
17 103G of this title.

18 C. If a vehicle is issued a license pursuant to Section 1 of
19 this act, the license shall also serve as the overweight permit
20 required by this section.

21 D. All size, weight and load provisions covered by this chapter
22 shall be subject to the limitations imposed by Title 23, United
23 States Code, Section 127, and such other rules and regulations
24 developed herein. Provided further that any size and weight

1 provision authorized by the United States Congress for use on the
2 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, including but
3 not limited to height, axle weight, gross weight, combinations of
4 vehicles or load thereon shall be authorized for immediate use on
5 such segments of the National System of Interstate and Defense
6 Highways and any other highways or portions thereof as designated by
7 the Transportation Commission or their duly authorized
8 representative.

9 E. All size, weight and load provisions covered by Sections 14-
10 101 through 14-123 of this title shall be subject to a gross vehicle
11 weight limit of ninety thousand (90,000) pounds when applied to a
12 vehicle operating off the National System of Interstate and Defense
13 Highways unless such vehicle is operating in full compliance with an
14 overweight permit issued by the Commissioner of Public Safety.

15 F. Any vehicle permitted for movement on the highways of this
16 state as provided in Section 14-101 et seq. of this title, other
17 than a vehicle permitted solely for overweight movement, shall be
18 moved only during daylight hours. As used in Section 14-101 et seq.
19 of this title, "daylight hours" shall mean one-half (1/2) hour
20 before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset.

21 ~~F.~~ G. 1. Any vehicle permitted for movement on the highways of
22 this state as provided in Section 14-101 et seq. of this title shall
23 not be moved at any time on the following holidays:

24 a. New Year's Day (January 1),

- b. Memorial Day (the last Monday in May),
- c. The Fourth of July (Independence Day),
- d. Labor Day (the first Monday in September),
- e. Thanksgiving Day (the fourth Thursday in November),
- and
- f. Christmas Day (December 25).

2. Any vehicle permitted for movement on the highways of this state as provided in Section 14-101 et seq. of this title shall be allowed to move on the following holidays:

- a. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday (the third Monday in January),
- b. President's Day, also known as Washington's Birthday (the third Monday in February), and
- c. Veteran's Day (November 11).

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2015.

SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

55-1-7395 GRS 04/09/15