

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

3 SENATE BILL 612

By: Silk

4  
5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to speed limits; amending 47 O.S.  
8 2011, Section 11-801, as last amended by Section 1,  
9 Chapter 276, O.S.L. 2016 (47 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section  
10 11-801), which relates to maximum and minimum limits;  
11 providing for certain request for altering certain  
12 speed limit; and providing an effective date.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 11-801, as  
15 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 276, O.S.L. 2016 (47 O.S. Supp.  
16 2016, Section 11-801), is amended to read as follows:

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

24 B. Except when a special hazard exists that requires lower  
speed for compliance with subsection A of this section, the limits

1 specified by law or established as hereinafter authorized shall be  
2 maximum lawful speeds, and no person shall drive a vehicle on a  
3 highway at a speed in excess of the following maximum limits:

4 1. On a highway or part of a highway, unless otherwise  
5 established in law, a speed established by the Department of  
6 Transportation on the basis of engineering and traffic  
7 investigations used to determine the speed that is reasonable and  
8 safe under the conditions found to exist on the highway or part of  
9 the highway;

10 2. For a school bus, fifty-five (55) miles per hour on paved  
11 two-lane roads except on the state highway system, the interstate  
12 highway system and the turnpike system where the maximum shall be  
13 sixty-five (65) miles per hour;

14 3. On any highway outside of a municipality in a properly  
15 marked school zone, twenty-five (25) miles per hour, provided the  
16 zone is marked with appropriate warning signs placed in accordance  
17 with the latest edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control  
18 Devices. The Department of Transportation may determine on the  
19 basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that a speed limit  
20 higher than twenty-five (25) miles per hour may be reasonable and  
21 safe under conditions as they exist upon a highway, and post an  
22 alternative school zone speed limit. The Department shall mark such  
23 school zones, or entrances and exits onto highways by buses or  
24 students, so that the maximum speed provided by this section shall

1 be established therein. Exits and entrances to controlled-access  
2 highways which are within such school zones shall be marked in the  
3 same manner as other highways. The county commissioners shall mark  
4 such school zones along the county roads so that the maximum speed  
5 provided by this section shall be established therein. The signs  
6 may be either permanent or temporary. The Department shall give  
7 priority over all other signing projects to the foregoing duty to  
8 mark school zones. The Department shall also provide other safety  
9 devices for school zones which are needed in the opinion of the  
10 Department;

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

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

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

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

1 The maximum speed limit may also be altered by a county commissioner  
2 when requested by residents within a county to reduce the speed of a  
3 section of highway. The commissioner shall prepare a request to  
4 submit to that transportation district requesting such reduction.  
5 Such request shall contain at least two percent (2%) of the  
6 registered voters of that county.

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

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

23 D. The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is hereby authorized to  
24 prescribe maximum and minimum speeds for trucks, buses and

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

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

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

1 or other appropriate sign, a temporary reduced speed limit for  
2 maintenance operations or when special hazards with respect to  
3 pedestrians, other traffic, an accident, by reason of weather or  
4 when other hazardous highway conditions exist.

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

9 a. the board of county commissioners may determine, by  
10 resolution, a maximum speed limit which shall apply to  
11 all county roads which are not otherwise posted for  
12 speed,

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

18 c. the board of county commissioners shall forward the  
19 resolution to the Director of the Department and to  
20 the Commissioner of Public Safety.

21 2. The Department shall post speed limit information, as  
22 determined pursuant to the provisions of subparagraphs a through c  
23 of paragraph 1 of this subsection, on the county line marker where  
24 any state highway enters a county and at all off-ramps where

1 interstate highways or turnpikes enter a county. The signs shall  
2 read as follows:

3 ENTERING \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY  
4 COUNTY ROAD SPEED LIMIT  
5 \_\_\_\_\_ MPH  
6 UNLESS POSTED OTHERWISE

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

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

- 12 1. One to ten miles per hour over the limit..... \$10.00
- 13 2. Eleven to fifteen miles per hour over the  
14 limit..... \$20.00
- 15 3. Sixteen to twenty miles per hour over the  
16 limit..... \$35.00
- 17 4. Twenty-one to twenty-five miles per hour over  
18 the limit..... \$75.00
- 19 5. Twenty-six to thirty miles per hour over the  
20 limit..... \$135.00
- 21 6. Thirty-one to thirty-five miles per hour over  
22 the limit..... \$155.00
- 23 7. Thirty-six miles per hour or more over the  
24 limit..... \$205.00

1 or by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) days; for a second  
2 conviction within one (1) year after the first conviction, by  
3 imprisonment for not more than twenty (20) days; and upon a third or  
4 subsequent conviction within one (1) year after the first  
5 conviction, by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or by  
6 both such fine and imprisonment.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

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