State of Arkansas  
92nd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2019  

A Bill  

HOUSE BILL 1631

By: Representative Vaught  
By: Senators B. Davis, Flippo, T. Garner  

For An Act To Be Entitled  

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle  

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 27-51-201(b) and (c), concerning speed limits, are amended to read as follows:

(b)(1)(A) Upon an engineering and traffic investigation, the State Highway Commission may increase the speed limit of a controlled-access highway to The maximum speed limit for a motor vehicle operated on a controlled-access highway is seventy-five miles per hour (75 m.p.h.) if the controlled-access highway:

(i) Is located outside an urban area; and

(ii) Has at least four (4) lanes that are divided by a median strip.

(B) The maximum speed limit for a commercial motor vehicle operated on a controlled-access highway described in subdivision (b)(1) of this section is seventy miles per hour (70 m.p.h.).

(2) The Arkansas Department of Transportation shall erect the appropriate signs giving notice of the maximum speed limit provided in subdivision (b)(1) of this section along the controlled-access highway maximum permissible speeds on controlled-access highways shall be effective
when appropriate signs giving notice are erected along the highway by the
Arkansas Department of Transportation.

(3) Upon an engineering and traffic investigation, the State
Highway Commission may decrease the maximum speed limit on a controlled-
access highway from the speed limit provided by subdivision (b)(1) of this
section.

(c) On all facilities other than controlled-access highways under
subdivision (b)(1) of this section, except when a special hazard exists that
requires lower speed for compliance with subsection (a) of this section, the
limits specified in this section or established as authorized shall be
maximum lawful speeds, and a person shall not drive a vehicle on a highway at
a speed in excess of:

1. Thirty miles per hour (30 m.p.h.) in any urban district;
2. Fifty miles per hour (50 m.p.h.) for trucks of one-and-one-
   half-ton capacity or more in other locations;
3. Sixty-five miles per hour (65 m.p.h.) on a controlled-access
   highway in an urban area for other motor vehicles in other locations; and
4. A motor vehicle which is over width, over length, or over
   height or the gross load of which is in excess of sixty-four thousand pounds
   (64,000 lbs), excluding the front axle, even if operated under a special
   permit, shall not be operated in excess of thirty miles per hour (30 m.p.h.).

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-51-201, concerning speed
limits, is
amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(h) As used in this section, "commercial motor vehicle" means any
motor vehicle used in commerce to transport passengers or property when the
vehicle or vehicle combination has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross
combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination
weight of twenty-six thousand one pounds (26,001 lbs.) or more.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act shall be effective on and after
July 1, 2020.

/s/Vaught

APPROVED: 4/8/19