

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1909

5 By: Representatives Pyle, Breedlove
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF HIGHWAYS IN THE
9 STATE BY IMPLEMENTING ADDITIONAL EXIT RAMP SAFETY
10 REQUIREMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

13 TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF HIGHWAYS IN THE
14 STATE BY IMPLEMENTING ADDITIONAL EXIT
15 RAMP SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 27, Chapter 67, Subchapter 2 is amended
22 to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 27-67-223. Additional safety requirements on exit ramps.

24 (a) As used in this section:

25 (1) "Exit ramp" means the lane that is used to exit a four-lane
26 highway or a six-lane highway that is part of the state highway system; and

27 (2) "Warning light system" means a warning system that:

28 (A) Is mounted on the top of the "DO NOT ENTER" and "WRONG
29 WAY" signs;

30 (B) Is activated by a sensor when a driver enters an exit
31 ramp in the wrong direction; and

32 (C) Warns a vehicle from proceeding through an exit ramp
33 in the wrong direction by flashing red lights in the direction that is
34 visible to a motorist who is entering the exit ramp in the wrong direction.

35 (b)(1) By January 1, 2015, and thereafter, the signage on all exit
36 ramps that warns motorists that they are entering a highway in the wrong



1 direction and traveling in the wrong direction shall:

2 (A) Include the written warnings “DO NOT ENTER” and “WRONG
3 WAY”;

4 (B) Be placed in two (2) areas on the exit ramp; and

5 (C) Be combined to form one (1) vertical sign on the same
6 post.

7 (2) The first placement shall be positioned:

8 (A) Closest to the nearest intersection; and

9 (B) Not more than two feet (2’) above the edge of the
10 pavement for maximum driver visibility.

11 (3) The second placement shall be:

12 (A) Positioned closer to the highway from which the exit
13 ramp leads;

14 (B) Positioned at the standard distance from the pavement;
15 and

16 (C) Include a warning light system.

17 (4) New construction of exit ramps that has not been bid out
18 after the effective date of this act shall include the signage described
19 under this subsection.

20 (5) The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
21 shall make it a priority to modify the exit ramp signage in areas with the
22 highest traffic volume.

23 (c)(1) The department and its designees shall implement geometric
24 design modifications to exit ramp and highway design to reduce wrong-way
25 entries for new construction.

26 (2) The geometric design modifications required under this
27 subsection shall include:

28 (A) Offset entrance and exit ramps that provide for
29 separate entrance ramp and exit ramp terminals; and

30 (B) Exit ramp width reduction to discourage wrong-way
31 entry.

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