

State of Arkansas

*As Engrossed: S3/31/99*

82nd General Assembly

# A Bill

Regular Session, 1999

HOUSE BILL 1401

By: Representative Wilkins

## For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 27-53-207 TO REQUIRE THE REPORTING OF THE HIGHWAY ACCIDENT LOCATIONS TO THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT; TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE TITLE 27, CHAPTER 53, SUBCHAPTER 2 TO ADD A NEW SECTION TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO SURVEY HIGHWAY ACCIDENT LOCATIONS, TO EVALUATE THE NEED FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS, AND TO SCHEDULE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS, IF DEEMED WARRANTED BY THE DEPARTMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

## Subtitle

"TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT TO SURVEY CERTAIN HIGHWAY ACCIDENT LOCATIONS AND TO IDENTIFY AND SCHEDULE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS. "

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 27-53-207 is amended to read as follows:

"27-53-207. Tabulation and analysis.

(a) The Department of Arkansas State Police shall tabulate and may analyze all accident reports and shall publish annually, or at more frequent intervals, statistical information based thereon as to the number and circumstances of traffic accidents.

(b) After its annual report on the number and circumstances of traffic

1 accidents, the Department of Arkansas State Police shall further report to the  
2 Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department the location of all  
3 accidents occurring within the preceding twelve (12) month period on the State  
4 Highway System which resulted in a human fatality and where two (2) or more  
5 accidents involving a personal bodily injury occurred at the same location."

6  
7 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 27, Chapter 53, Subchapter 2 is amended  
8 by adding the following section to be appropriately numbered by the Arkansas  
9 Code Revision Commission:

10 "Inspection of accident scenes for safety improvements.

11 (a) It shall be the duty of the Arkansas State Highway and  
12 Transportation Department to inspect all accident locations on the State  
13 Highway System in Arkansas, as reported to the department by the Department of  
14 Arkansas State Police pursuant to Arkansas Code 27-53-207(b), where accidents  
15 occurred within the preceding twelve (12) month period which resulted in a  
16 human fatality and where two (2) or more accidents involving a personal bodily  
17 injury occurred at the same location. The inspections shall determine, within  
18 the judgement of Department personnel, whether safety improvements, increased  
19 visibility, warning signs, traffic control devices, or any other safety  
20 improvements are warranted which could reduce or prevent the future occurrence  
21 of any further similar accidents at the same locations.

22 (b) The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department shall  
23 develop a schedule for and implement those safety improvements deemed  
24 warranted by that department.

25  
26 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
27 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
28 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

29  
30 SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
31 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
32 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
33 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
34 act are declared to be severable.

35  
36 SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are

1 hereby repealed.

/s/ Wilkins

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36