

As Introduced

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H. B. No. 100

Representatives Slaby, Patmon

**Cosponsors: Representatives O'Brien, S., Lepore-Hagan, Romanchuk, Maag,
Blessing, Schaffer, Hambley, Grossman, Dever**

A BILL

To amend section 4511.25 of the Revised Code to
require that a vehicle with a gross vehicle
weight rating or an actual gross vehicle weight
of more than 10,000 pounds be driven only in
either of the two right-hand lanes of a freeway
with three lanes of travel in the same
direction, except in limited circumstances.

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

Section 1. That section 4511.25 of the Revised Code be
amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4511.25. (A) Upon all roadways of sufficient width, a
vehicle or trackless trolley shall be driven upon the right half
of the roadway, except as follows:

(1) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding
in the same direction, or when making a left turn under the
rules governing such movements;

(2) When an obstruction exists making it necessary to
drive to the left of the center of the highway; provided, any

person so doing shall yield the right of way to all vehicles 18
traveling in the proper direction upon the unobstructed portion 19
of the highway within such distance as to constitute an 20
immediate hazard; 21

(3) When driving upon a roadway divided into three or more 22
marked lanes for traffic under the rules applicable thereon; 23

(4) When driving upon a roadway designated and posted with 24
signs for one-way traffic; 25

(5) When otherwise directed by a police officer or traffic 26
control device. 27

(B) (1) Upon all roadways any vehicle or trackless trolley 28
proceeding at less than the prevailing and lawful speed of 29
traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then 30
existing shall be driven in the right-hand lane then available 31
for traffic, and far enough to the right to allow passing by 32
faster vehicles if such passing is safe and reasonable, except 33
under any of the following circumstances: 34

(a) When overtaking and passing another vehicle or 35
trackless trolley proceeding in the same direction; 36

(b) When preparing for a left turn; 37

(c) When the driver must necessarily drive in a lane other 38
than the right-hand lane to continue on the driver's intended 39
route. 40

(2) Nothing in division (B) (1) of this section requires a 41
driver of a slower vehicle to compromise the driver's safety to 42
allow overtaking by a faster vehicle. 43

(C) Upon any roadway having four or more lanes for moving 44
traffic and providing for two-way movement of traffic, no 45

vehicle or trackless trolley shall be driven to the left of the center line of the roadway, except when authorized by official traffic control devices designating certain lanes to the left of the center of the roadway for use by traffic not otherwise permitted to use the lanes, or except as permitted under division (A) (2) of this section.

This division shall not be construed as prohibiting the crossing of the center line in making a left turn into or from an alley, private road, or driveway.

(D) Upon any freeway having three or more lanes for travel in the same direction, any vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating or an actual gross vehicle weight of more than ten thousand pounds shall be driven only in either of the two lanes farthest to the right, except as follows:

(1) When preparing for a left-hand exit from the freeway;

(2) When a driver must necessarily drive in a lane other than one of the two lanes farthest to the right to continue on the driver's intended route;

(3) When a special hazard exists that requires the use of an alternative lane for safety reasons;

(4) When otherwise directed by a police officer or traffic control device.

The offense established under division (D) of this section is a strict liability offense and section 2901.20 of the Revised Code does not apply.

(E) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If,

within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 74
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 75
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 76
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 77
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 78
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 79
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 80
degree. 81

Section 2. That existing section 4511.25 of the Revised 82
Code is hereby repealed. 83