

**As Introduced**

**132nd General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2017-2018**

**H. B. No. 219**

**Representative Bocchieri**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Hood, Sheehy, Lepore-Hagan, Becker, Miller,  
Ashford, Seitz, O'Brien, West, Craig, Kent, Holmes**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 4511.21 of the Revised Code to 1  
specify that a speed limit becomes effective at 2  
a reasonable distance from the appropriate sign 3  
giving notice of the speed limit. 4

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

**Section 1.** That section 4511.21 of the Revised Code be 5  
amended to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 4511.21.** (A) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, 7  
trackless trolley, or streetcar at a speed greater or less than 8  
is reasonable or proper, having due regard to the traffic, 9  
surface, and width of the street or highway and any other 10  
conditions, and no person shall drive any motor vehicle, 11  
trackless trolley, or streetcar in and upon any street or 12  
highway at a greater speed than will permit the person to bring 13  
it to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead. 14

(B) It is prima-facie lawful, in the absence of a lower 15  
limit declared or established pursuant to this section by the 16  
director of transportation or local authorities, for the 17

operator of a motor vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar to 18  
operate the same at a speed not exceeding the following: 19

(1) (a) Twenty miles per hour in school zones during school 20  
recess and while children are going to or leaving school during 21  
the opening or closing hours, and when twenty miles per hour 22  
school speed limit signs are erected; except that, on 23  
controlled-access highways and expressways, if the right-of-way 24  
line fence has been erected without pedestrian opening, the 25  
speed shall be governed by division (B) (4) of this section and 26  
on freeways, if the right-of-way line fence has been erected 27  
without pedestrian opening, the speed shall be governed by 28  
divisions (B) (10) and (11) of this section. The end of every 29  
school zone may be marked by a sign indicating the end of the 30  
zone. Nothing in this section or in the manual and 31  
specifications for a uniform system of traffic control devices 32  
shall be construed to require school zones to be indicated by 33  
signs equipped with flashing or other lights, or giving other 34  
special notice of the hours in which the school zone speed limit 35  
is in effect. 36

(b) As used in this section and in section 4511.212 of the 37  
Revised Code, "school" means any school chartered under section 38  
3301.16 of the Revised Code and any nonchartered school that 39  
during the preceding year filed with the department of education 40  
in compliance with rule 3301-35-08 of the Ohio Administrative 41  
Code, a copy of the school's report for the parents of the 42  
school's pupils certifying that the school meets Ohio minimum 43  
standards for nonchartered, nontax-supported schools and 44  
presents evidence of this filing to the jurisdiction from which 45  
it is requesting the establishment of a school zone. "School" 46  
also includes a special elementary school that in writing 47  
requests the county engineer of the county in which the special 48

elementary school is located to create a school zone at the 49  
location of that school. Upon receipt of such a written request, 50  
the county engineer shall create a school zone at that location 51  
by erecting the appropriate signs. 52

(c) As used in this section, "school zone" means that 53  
portion of a street or highway passing a school fronting upon 54  
the street or highway that is encompassed by projecting the 55  
school property lines to the fronting street or highway, and 56  
also includes that portion of a state highway. Upon request from 57  
local authorities for streets and highways under their 58  
jurisdiction and that portion of a state highway under the 59  
jurisdiction of the director of transportation or a request from 60  
a county engineer in the case of a school zone for a special 61  
elementary school, the director may extend the traditional 62  
school zone boundaries. The distances in divisions (B) (1) (c) (i), 63  
(ii), and (iii) of this section shall not exceed three hundred 64  
feet per approach per direction and are bounded by whichever of 65  
the following distances or combinations thereof the director 66  
approves as most appropriate: 67

(i) The distance encompassed by projecting the school 68  
building lines normal to the fronting highway and extending a 69  
distance of three hundred feet on each approach direction; 70

(ii) The distance encompassed by projecting the school 71  
property lines intersecting the fronting highway and extending a 72  
distance of three hundred feet on each approach direction; 73

(iii) The distance encompassed by the special marking of 74  
the pavement for a principal school pupil crosswalk plus a 75  
distance of three hundred feet on each approach direction of the 76  
highway. 77

Nothing in this section shall be construed to invalidate 78  
the director's initial action on August 9, 1976, establishing 79  
all school zones at the traditional school zone boundaries 80  
defined by projecting school property lines, except when those 81  
boundaries are extended as provided in divisions (B) (1) (a) and 82  
(c) of this section. 83

(d) As used in this division, "crosswalk" has the meaning 84  
given that term in division (LL) (2) of section 4511.01 of the 85  
Revised Code. 86

The director may, upon request by resolution of the 87  
legislative authority of a municipal corporation, the board of 88  
trustees of a township, or a county board of developmental 89  
disabilities created pursuant to Chapter 5126. of the Revised 90  
Code, and upon submission by the municipal corporation, 91  
township, or county board of such engineering, traffic, and 92  
other information as the director considers necessary, designate 93  
a school zone on any portion of a state route lying within the 94  
municipal corporation, lying within the unincorporated territory 95  
of the township, or lying adjacent to the property of a school 96  
that is operated by such county board, that includes a crosswalk 97  
customarily used by children going to or leaving a school during 98  
recess and opening and closing hours, whenever the distance, as 99  
measured in a straight line, from the school property line 100  
nearest the crosswalk to the nearest point of the crosswalk is 101  
no more than one thousand three hundred twenty feet. Such a 102  
school zone shall include the distance encompassed by the 103  
crosswalk and extending three hundred feet on each approach 104  
direction of the state route. 105

(e) As used in this section, "special elementary school" 106  
means a school that meets all of the following criteria: 107

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| (i) It is not chartered and does not receive tax revenue         | 108 |
| from any source.   | 109 |
| (ii) It does not educate children beyond the eighth grade.       | 110 |
| (iii) It is located outside the limits of a municipal            | 111 |
| corporation.   | 112 |
| (iv) A majority of the total number of students enrolled         | 113 |
| at the school are not related by blood.                          | 114 |
| (v) The principal or other person in charge of the special       | 115 |
| elementary school annually sends a report to the superintendent  | 116 |
| of the school district in which the special elementary school is | 117 |
| located indicating the total number of students enrolled at the  | 118 |
| school, but otherwise the principal or other person in charge    | 119 |
| does not report any other information or data to the             | 120 |
| superintendent.  | 121 |
| (2) Twenty-five miles per hour in all other portions of a        | 122 |
| municipal corporation, except on state routes outside business   | 123 |
| districts, through highways outside business districts, and      | 124 |
| alleys;  | 125 |
| (3) Thirty-five miles per hour on all state routes or            | 126 |
| through highways within municipal corporations outside business  | 127 |
| districts, except as provided in divisions (B) (4) and (6) of    | 128 |
| this section;  | 129 |
| (4) Fifty miles per hour on controlled-access highways and       | 130 |
| expressways within municipal corporations;                       | 131 |
| (5) Fifty-five miles per hour on highways outside                | 132 |
| municipal corporations, other than highways within island        | 133 |
| jurisdictions as provided in division (B) (8) of this section,   | 134 |
| highways as provided in divisions (B) (9) and (10) of this       | 135 |

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| section, and highways, expressways, and freeways as provided in  | 136 |
| divisions (B) (13), (14), (15), and (17) of this section;        | 137 |
| (6) Fifty miles per hour on state routes within municipal        | 138 |
| corporations outside urban districts unless a lower prima-facie  | 139 |
| speed is established as further provided in this section;        | 140 |
| (7) Fifteen miles per hour on all alleys within the              | 141 |
| municipal corporation;   | 142 |
| (8) Thirty-five miles per hour on highways outside               | 143 |
| municipal corporations that are within an island jurisdiction;   | 144 |
| (9) Thirty-five miles per hour on through highways, except       | 145 |
| state routes, that are outside municipal corporations and that   | 146 |
| are within a national park with boundaries extending through two | 147 |
| or more counties;  | 148 |
| (10) Sixty miles per hour on two-lane state routes outside       | 149 |
| municipal corporations as established by the director under      | 150 |
| division (H) (2) of this section;                                | 151 |
| (11) Fifty-five miles per hour at all times on freeways          | 152 |
| with paved shoulders inside municipal corporations, other than   | 153 |
| freeways as provided in divisions (B) (15) and (17) of this      | 154 |
| section;   | 155 |
| (12) Fifty-five miles per hour at all times on freeways          | 156 |
| outside municipal corporations, other than freeways as provided  | 157 |
| in divisions (B) (15) and (17) of this section;                  | 158 |
| (13) Sixty miles per hour for operators of any motor             | 159 |
| vehicle at all times on all portions of rural divided highways;  | 160 |
| (14) Sixty-five miles per hour for operators of any motor        | 161 |
| vehicle at all times on all rural expressways without traffic    | 162 |
| control signals;   | 163 |

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|---|---------------------------------|
| (15) Seventy miles per hour for operators of any motor vehicle at all times on all rural freeways;  | 164<br>165                      |
| (16) Fifty-five miles per hour for operators of any motor vehicle at all times on all portions of freeways in congested areas as determined by the director and that are part of the interstate system and are located within a municipal corporation or within an interstate freeway outerbelt;  | 166<br>167<br>168<br>169<br>170 |
| (17) Sixty-five miles per hour for operators of any motor vehicle at all times on all portions of freeways in urban areas as determined by the director and that are part of the interstate system and are part of an interstate freeway outerbelt.   | 171<br>172<br>173<br>174<br>175 |
| (C) <u>(1)</u> It is prima-facie unlawful for any person to exceed any of the speed limitations in divisions (B) (1) (a), (2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), and (9) of this section, or any declared or established pursuant to this section by the director or local authorities <del>and it</del> . | 176<br>177<br>178<br>179<br>180 |
| <u>(2)</u> It is unlawful for any person to exceed any of the speed limitations in division (D) of this section.  | 181<br>182                      |
| <u>(3)</u> No person shall be convicted of more than one violation of this section for the same conduct, <del>although violations of more than one provision of this section may be charged in the alternative in a single affidavit.</del>   | 183<br>184<br>185<br>186        |
| (D) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar upon a street or highway as follows:   | 187<br>188                      |
| (1) At a speed exceeding fifty-five miles per hour, except upon a two-lane state route as provided in division (B) (10) of this section and upon a highway, expressway, or freeway as provided in divisions (B) (13), (14), (15), and (17) of this  | 189<br>190<br>191<br>192        |

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| section;   | 193  |
| (2) At a speed exceeding sixty miles per hour upon a two-lane state route as provided in division (B) (10) of this section and upon a highway as provided in division (B) (13) of this section;  | 194<br>195<br>196<br>197                             |
| (3) At a speed exceeding sixty-five miles per hour upon an expressway as provided in division (B) (14) or upon a freeway as provided in division (B) (17) of this section, except upon a freeway as provided in division (B) (15) of this section;   | 198<br>199<br>200<br>201                             |
| (4) At a speed exceeding seventy miles per hour upon a freeway as provided in division (B) (15) of this section;   | 202<br>203   |
| (5) At a speed exceeding the posted speed limit upon a highway, expressway, or freeway for which the director has determined and declared a speed limit pursuant to division (I) (2) or (L) (2) of this section.   | 204<br>205<br>206<br>207                             |
| (E) <u>A speed limitation established under division (B) or (D) of this section, or a speed limitation established or declared pursuant to this section by the director or by a local authority, is effective beginning at a reasonable distance from the location where the sign giving notice of the speed limitation is erected. The limitation continues in effect until a reasonable distance from the location where a sign establishing a different speed limitation is lawfully erected.</u> | 208<br>209<br>210<br>211<br>212<br>213<br>214<br>215 |
| (F) (1) <u>In every charge of a violation of this section, the affidavit and warrant shall specify <del>the</del> all of the following:</u>  | 216<br>217   |
| (a) <u>The time, of the alleged violation;</u>   | 218  |
| (b) <u>The place, and of the alleged violation;</u>  | 219  |
| (c) <u>The speed at which the defendant is alleged to have</u>   | 220  |



driven, and in charges made in reliance upon division (C) of 221  
~~this section also the~~ except for violations of division (A) of 222  
this section; 223

(d) The speed which division (B) (1) (a), (2), (3), (4), 224  
~~(6), (7), (8), or (9) of, or a limit declared or established~~ 225  
pursuant to, this section ~~declares is prima facie lawful at the~~ 226  
time and place of ~~such the~~ alleged violation, except that in 227  
~~affidavits where a person is alleged to have driven at a greater~~ 228  
~~speed than will permit the person to bring the vehicle to a stop~~ 229  
~~within the assured clear distance ahead the affidavit and~~ 230  
~~warrant need not specify the speed at which the defendant is~~ 231  
~~alleged to have driven.~~ 232

~~(F)~~ (2) Violations of more than one provision of this 233  
section may be charged as alternative violations in a single 234  
affidavit. 235

(3) (a) When a speed in excess of both a prima-facie 236  
limitation and a limitation in division (D) of this section is 237  
alleged, the defendant ~~shall~~ may be charged in a single 238  
affidavit, alleging a single act, with a violation indicated of 239  
both division (B) (1) (a), (2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), or (9) of 240  
this section, or of a limit declared or established pursuant to 241  
this section by the director or local authorities, and of the 242  
limitation in division (D) of this section. 243

(b) If the court finds a violation of division (B) (1) (a), 244  
(2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), or (9) of, this section or a limit 245  
declared or established pursuant to, this section has occurred, 246  
then it shall enter a judgment of conviction under such division 247  
and dismiss the charge under division (D) of this section. 248

(c) If it finds no violation of division (B) (1) (a), (2), 249

(3), (4), (6), (7), (8), or (9) of this section or a limit 250  
declared or established pursuant to this section, then it shall 251  
~~then~~ consider whether the evidence supports a conviction under 252  
division (D) of this section. 253

(G) Points shall be assessed for violation of a limitation 254  
under division (D) of this section in accordance with section 255  
4510.036 of the Revised Code. 256

(H) (1) Whenever the director determines upon the basis of 257  
a geometric and traffic characteristic study that any speed 258  
limit set forth in divisions (B) (1) (a) to (D) of this section is 259  
greater or less than is reasonable or safe under the conditions 260  
found to exist at any portion of a street or highway under the 261  
jurisdiction of the director, the director shall determine and 262  
declare a reasonable and safe prima-facie speed limit, which 263  
shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice of it 264  
are erected at the location. 265

(2) Whenever the director determines upon the basis of a 266  
geometric and traffic characteristic study that the speed limit 267  
of fifty-five miles per hour on a two-lane state route outside a 268  
municipal corporation is less than is reasonable or safe under 269  
the conditions found to exist at that portion of the state 270  
route, the director may determine and declare a speed limit of 271  
sixty miles per hour for that portion of the state route, which 272  
shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice of it 273  
are erected at the location. 274

(I) (1) Except as provided in divisions (I) (2) and (K) of 275  
this section, whenever local authorities determine upon the 276  
basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that the speed 277  
permitted by divisions (B) (1) (a) to (D) of this section, on any 278  
part of a highway under their jurisdiction, is greater than is 279

reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist at such 280  
location, the local authorities may by resolution request the 281  
director to determine and declare a reasonable and safe prima- 282  
facie speed limit. Upon receipt of such request the director may 283  
determine and declare a reasonable and safe prima-facie speed 284  
limit at such location, and if the director does so, then such 285  
declared speed limit shall become effective only when 286  
appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected at such 287  
location by the local authorities. The director may withdraw the 288  
declaration of a prima-facie speed limit whenever in the 289  
director's opinion the altered prima-facie speed becomes 290  
unreasonable. Upon such withdrawal, the declared prima-facie 291  
speed shall become ineffective and the signs relating thereto 292  
shall be immediately removed by the local authorities. 293

(2) A local authority may determine on the basis of a 294  
geometric and traffic characteristic study that the speed limit 295  
of sixty-five miles per hour on a portion of a freeway under its 296  
jurisdiction that was established through the operation of 297  
division (L) (3) of this section is greater than is reasonable or 298  
safe under the conditions found to exist at that portion of the 299  
freeway. If the local authority makes such a determination, the 300  
local authority by resolution may request the director to 301  
determine and declare a reasonable and safe speed limit of not 302  
less than fifty-five miles per hour for that portion of the 303  
freeway. If the director takes such action, the declared speed 304  
limit becomes effective only when appropriate signs giving 305  
notice of it are erected at such location by the local 306  
authority. 307

(J) Local authorities in their respective jurisdictions 308  
may authorize by ordinance higher prima-facie speeds than those 309  
stated in this section upon through highways, or upon highways 310

or portions thereof where there are no intersections, or between 311  
widely spaced intersections, provided signs are erected giving 312  
notice of the authorized speed, but local authorities shall not 313  
modify or alter the basic rule set forth in division (A) of this 314  
section or in any event authorize by ordinance a speed in excess 315  
of fifty miles per hour. 316

Alteration of prima-facie limits on state routes by local 317  
authorities shall not be effective until the alteration has been 318  
approved by the director. The director may withdraw approval of 319  
any altered prima-facie speed limits whenever in the director's 320  
opinion any altered prima-facie speed becomes unreasonable, and 321  
upon such withdrawal, the altered prima-facie speed shall become 322  
ineffective and the signs relating thereto shall be immediately 323  
removed by the local authorities. 324

(K) (1) As used in divisions (K) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of 325  
this section, "unimproved highway" means a highway consisting of 326  
any of the following: 327

(a) Unimproved earth; 328

(b) Unimproved graded and drained earth; 329

(c) Gravel. 330

(2) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (K) (4) and 331  
(5) of this section, whenever a board of township trustees 332  
determines upon the basis of an engineering and traffic 333  
investigation that the speed permitted by division (B) (5) of 334  
this section on any part of an unimproved highway under its 335  
jurisdiction and in the unincorporated territory of the township 336  
is greater than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found 337  
to exist at the location, the board may by resolution declare a 338  
reasonable and safe prima-facie speed limit of fifty-five but 339

not less than twenty-five miles per hour. An altered speed limit 340  
adopted by a board of township trustees under this division 341  
becomes effective when appropriate traffic control devices, as 342  
prescribed in section 4511.11 of the Revised Code, giving notice 343  
thereof are erected at the location, which shall be no sooner 344  
than sixty days after adoption of the resolution. 345

(3) (a) Whenever, in the opinion of a board of township 346  
trustees, any altered prima-facie speed limit established by the 347  
board under this division becomes unreasonable, the board may 348  
adopt a resolution withdrawing the altered prima-facie speed 349  
limit. Upon the adoption of such a resolution, the altered 350  
prima-facie speed limit becomes ineffective and the traffic 351  
control devices relating thereto shall be immediately removed. 352

(b) Whenever a highway ceases to be an unimproved highway 353  
and the board has adopted an altered prima-facie speed limit 354  
pursuant to division (K) (2) of this section, the board shall, by 355  
resolution, withdraw the altered prima-facie speed limit as soon 356  
as the highway ceases to be unimproved. Upon the adoption of 357  
such a resolution, the altered prima-facie speed limit becomes 358  
ineffective and the traffic control devices relating thereto 359  
shall be immediately removed. 360

(4) (a) If the boundary of two townships rests on the 361  
centerline of an unimproved highway in unincorporated territory 362  
and both townships have jurisdiction over the highway, neither 363  
of the boards of township trustees of such townships may declare 364  
an altered prima-facie speed limit pursuant to division (K) (2) 365  
of this section on the part of the highway under their joint 366  
jurisdiction unless the boards of township trustees of both of 367  
the townships determine, upon the basis of an engineering and 368  
traffic investigation, that the speed permitted by division (B) 369

(5) of this section is greater than is reasonable or safe under 370  
the conditions found to exist at the location and both boards 371  
agree upon a reasonable and safe prima-facie speed limit of less 372  
than fifty-five but not less than twenty-five miles per hour for 373  
that location. If both boards so agree, each shall follow the 374  
procedure specified in division (K) (2) of this section for 375  
altering the prima-facie speed limit on the highway. Except as 376  
otherwise provided in division (K) (4) (b) of this section, no 377  
speed limit altered pursuant to division (K) (4) (a) of this 378  
section may be withdrawn unless the boards of township trustees 379  
of both townships determine that the altered prima-facie speed 380  
limit previously adopted becomes unreasonable and each board 381  
adopts a resolution withdrawing the altered prima-facie speed 382  
limit pursuant to the procedure specified in division (K) (3) (a) 383  
of this section. 384

(b) Whenever a highway described in division (K) (4) (a) of 385  
this section ceases to be an unimproved highway and two boards 386  
of township trustees have adopted an altered prima-facie speed 387  
limit pursuant to division (K) (4) (a) of this section, both 388  
boards shall, by resolution, withdraw the altered prima-facie 389  
speed limit as soon as the highway ceases to be unimproved. Upon 390  
the adoption of the resolution, the altered prima-facie speed 391  
limit becomes ineffective and the traffic control devices 392  
relating thereto shall be immediately removed. 393

(5) As used in division (K) (5) of this section: 394

(a) "Commercial subdivision" means any platted territory 395  
outside the limits of a municipal corporation and fronting a 396  
highway where, for a distance of three hundred feet or more, the 397  
frontage is improved with buildings in use for commercial 398  
purposes, or where the entire length of the highway is less than 399

three hundred feet long and the frontage is improved with 400  
buildings in use for commercial purposes. 401

(b) "Residential subdivision" means any platted territory 402  
outside the limits of a municipal corporation and fronting a 403  
highway, where, for a distance of three hundred feet or more, 404  
the frontage is improved with residences or residences and 405  
buildings in use for business, or where the entire length of the 406  
highway is less than three hundred feet long and the frontage is 407  
improved with residences or residences and buildings in use for 408  
business. 409

Whenever a board of township trustees finds upon the basis 410  
of an engineering and traffic investigation that the prima-facie 411  
speed permitted by division (B) (5) of this section on any part 412  
of a highway under its jurisdiction that is located in a 413  
commercial or residential subdivision, except on highways or 414  
portions thereof at the entrances to which vehicular traffic 415  
from the majority of intersecting highways is required to yield 416  
the right-of-way to vehicles on such highways in obedience to 417  
stop or yield signs or traffic control signals, is greater than 418  
is reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist at 419  
the location, the board may by resolution declare a reasonable 420  
and safe prima-facie speed limit of less than fifty-five but not 421  
less than twenty-five miles per hour at the location. An altered 422  
speed limit adopted by a board of township trustees under this 423  
division shall become effective when appropriate signs giving 424  
notice thereof are erected at the location by the township. 425  
Whenever, in the opinion of a board of township trustees, any 426  
altered prima-facie speed limit established by it under this 427  
division becomes unreasonable, it may adopt a resolution 428  
withdrawing the altered prima-facie speed, and upon such 429  
withdrawal, the altered prima-facie speed shall become 430

ineffective, and the signs relating thereto shall be immediately 431  
removed by the township. 432

(L) (1) On September 29, 2013, the director of 433  
transportation, based upon an engineering study of a highway, 434  
expressway, or freeway described in division (B) (13), (14), 435  
(15), (16), or (17) of this section, in consultation with the 436  
director of public safety and, if applicable, the local 437  
authority having jurisdiction over the studied highway, 438  
expressway, or freeway, may determine and declare that the speed 439  
limit established on such highway, expressway, or freeway under 440  
division (B) (13), (14), (15), (16), or (17) of this section 441  
either is reasonable and safe or is more or less than that which 442  
is reasonable and safe. 443

(2) If the established speed limit for a highway, 444  
expressway, or freeway studied pursuant to division (L) (1) of 445  
this section is determined to be more or less than that which is 446  
reasonable and safe, the director of transportation, in 447  
consultation with the director of public safety and, if 448  
applicable, the local authority having jurisdiction over the 449  
studied highway, expressway, or freeway, shall determine and 450  
declare a reasonable and safe speed limit for that highway, 451  
expressway, or freeway. 452

(M) (1) (a) If the boundary of two local authorities rests 453  
on the centerline of a highway and both authorities have 454  
jurisdiction over the highway, the speed limit for the part of 455  
the highway within their joint jurisdiction shall be either one 456  
of the following as agreed to by both authorities: 457

(i) Either prima-facie speed limit permitted by division 458  
(B) of this section; 459



(ii) An altered speed limit determined and posted in accordance with this section. 460  
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(b) If the local authorities are unable to reach an agreement, the speed limit shall remain as established and posted under this section. 462  
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(2) Neither local authority may declare an altered prima-facie speed limit pursuant to this section on the part of the highway under their joint jurisdiction unless both of the local authorities determine, upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, that the speed permitted by this section is greater than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist at the location and both authorities agree upon a uniform reasonable and safe prima-facie speed limit of less than fifty-five but not less than twenty-five miles per hour for that location. If both authorities so agree, each shall follow the procedure specified in this section for altering the prima-facie speed limit on the highway, and the speed limit for the part of the highway within their joint jurisdiction shall be uniformly altered. No altered speed limit may be withdrawn unless both local authorities determine that the altered prima-facie speed limit previously adopted becomes unreasonable and each adopts a resolution withdrawing the altered prima-facie speed limit pursuant to the procedure specified in this section. 465  
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(N) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation or township in which a boarding school is located, by resolution or ordinance, may establish a boarding school zone. The legislative authority may alter the speed limit on any street or highway within the boarding school zone and shall specify the hours during which the altered speed limit is in effect. For purposes of determining the boundaries of the boarding school 483  
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zone, the altered speed limit within the boarding school zone, 490  
and the hours the altered speed limit is in effect, the 491  
legislative authority shall consult with the administration of 492  
the boarding school and with the county engineer or other 493  
appropriate engineer, as applicable. A boarding school zone 494  
speed limit becomes effective only when appropriate signs giving 495  
notice thereof are erected at the appropriate locations. 496

(0) As used in this section: 497

(1) "Interstate system" has the same meaning as in 23 498  
U.S.C.A. 101. 499

(2) "Commercial bus" means a motor vehicle designed for 500  
carrying more than nine passengers and used for the 501  
transportation of persons for compensation. 502

(3) "Noncommercial bus" includes but is not limited to a 503  
school bus or a motor vehicle operated solely for the 504  
transportation of persons associated with a charitable or 505  
nonprofit organization. 506

(4) "Outerbelt" means a portion of a freeway that is part 507  
of the interstate system and is located in the outer vicinity of 508  
a major municipal corporation or group of municipal 509  
corporations, as designated by the director. 510

(5) "Rural" means outside urbanized areas, as designated 511  
in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 101, and outside of a business or 512  
urban district. 513

(P) (1) A violation of any provision of this section is one 514  
of the following: 515

(a) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (P) (1) (b), 516  
(1) (c), (2), and (3) of this section, a minor misdemeanor; 517

(b) If, within one year of the offense, the offender 518  
previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two 519  
violations of any provision of this section or of any provision 520  
of a municipal ordinance that is substantially similar to any 521  
provision of this section, a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; 522

(c) If, within one year of the offense, the offender 523  
previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or 524  
more violations of any provision of this section or of any 525  
provision of a municipal ordinance that is substantially similar 526  
to any provision of this section, a misdemeanor of the third 527  
degree. 528

(2) If the offender has not previously been convicted of 529  
or pleaded guilty to a violation of any provision of this 530  
section or of any provision of a municipal ordinance that is 531  
substantially similar to this section and operated a motor 532  
vehicle faster than thirty-five miles an hour in a business 533  
district of a municipal corporation, faster than fifty miles an 534  
hour in other portions of a municipal corporation, or faster 535  
than thirty-five miles an hour in a school zone during recess or 536  
while children are going to or leaving school during the 537  
school's opening or closing hours, a misdemeanor of the fourth 538  
degree. 539

(3) Notwithstanding division (P)(1) of this section, if 540  
the offender operated a motor vehicle in a construction zone 541  
where a sign was then posted in accordance with section 4511.98 542  
of the Revised Code, the court, in addition to all other 543  
penalties provided by law, shall impose upon the offender a fine 544  
of two times the usual amount imposed for the violation. No 545  
court shall impose a fine of two times the usual amount imposed 546  
for the violation upon an offender if the offender alleges, in 547

an affidavit filed with the court prior to the offender's 548  
sentencing, that the offender is indigent and is unable to pay 549  
the fine imposed pursuant to this division and if the court 550  
determines that the offender is an indigent person and unable to 551  
pay the fine. 552

**Section 2.** That existing section 4511.21 of the Revised 553  
Code is hereby repealed. 554