

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**H. B. No. 111**

**Representatives Miller, K., Creech**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Brennan, Deeter, Hiner, Bird**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 4511.21 of the Revised Code to 1  
impose an additional fine on drivers who exceed 2  
the speed limit by 30 miles per hour. 3

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

**Section 1.** That section 4511.21 of the Revised Code be 4  
amended to read as follows: 5

**Sec. 4511.21.** (A) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, 6  
trackless trolley, or streetcar at a speed greater or less than 7  
is reasonable or proper, having due regard to the traffic, 8  
surface, and width of the street or highway and any other 9  
conditions, and no person shall drive any motor vehicle, 10  
trackless trolley, or streetcar in and upon any street or 11  
highway at a greater speed than will permit the person to bring 12  
it to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead. 13

(B) It is prima-facie lawful, in the absence of a lower 14  
limit declared or established pursuant to this section by the 15  
director of transportation or local authorities, for the 16  
operator of a motor vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar to 17  
operate the same at a speed not exceeding the following: 18

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

(b) As used in this section and in section 4511.212 of the Revised Code, "school" means all of the following:

(i) Any school chartered under section 3301.16 of the Revised Code;

(ii) Any nonchartered school that during the preceding year filed with the department of education and workforce in compliance with rule 3301-35-08 of the Ohio Administrative Code, a copy of the school's report for the parents of the school's pupils certifying that the school meets Ohio minimum standards for nonchartered, nontax-supported schools and presents evidence of this filing to the jurisdiction from which it is requesting the establishment of a school zone;

(iii) Any special elementary school that in writing

requests the county engineer of the county in which the special elementary school is located to create a school zone at the location of that school. Upon receipt of such a written request, the county engineer shall create a school zone at that location by erecting the appropriate signs.

(iv) Any preschool education program operated by an educational service center that is located on a street or highway with a speed limit of forty-five miles per hour or more, when the educational service center in writing requests that the county engineer of the county in which the program is located create a school zone at the location of that program. Upon receipt of such a written request, the county engineer shall create a school zone at that location by erecting the appropriate signs.

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

(i) The distance encompassed by projecting the school

building lines normal to the fronting highway and extending a 79  
distance of three hundred feet on each approach direction; 80

(ii) The distance encompassed by projecting the school 81  
property lines intersecting the fronting highway and extending a 82  
distance of three hundred feet on each approach direction; 83

(iii) The distance encompassed by the special marking of 84  
the pavement for a principal school pupil crosswalk plus a 85  
distance of three hundred feet on each approach direction of the 86  
highway. 87

Nothing in this section shall be construed to invalidate 88  
the director's initial action on August 9, 1976, establishing 89  
all school zones at the traditional school zone boundaries 90  
defined by projecting school property lines, except when those 91  
boundaries are extended as provided in divisions (B) (1) (a) and 92  
(c) of this section. 93

(d) As used in this division, "crosswalk" has the meaning 94  
given that term in division (LL) (2) of section 4511.01 of the 95  
Revised Code. 96

The director may, upon request by resolution of the 97  
legislative authority of a municipal corporation, the board of 98  
trustees of a township, or a county board of developmental 99  
disabilities created pursuant to Chapter 5126. of the Revised 100  
Code, and upon submission by the municipal corporation, 101  
township, or county board of such engineering, traffic, and 102  
other information as the director considers necessary, designate 103  
a school zone on any portion of a state route lying within the 104  
municipal corporation, lying within the unincorporated territory 105  
of the township, or lying adjacent to the property of a school 106  
that is operated by such county board, that includes a crosswalk 107

customarily used by children going to or leaving a school during 108  
recess and opening and closing hours, whenever the distance, as 109  
measured in a straight line, from the school property line 110  
nearest the crosswalk to the nearest point of the crosswalk is 111  
no more than one thousand three hundred twenty feet. Such a 112  
school zone shall include the distance encompassed by the 113  
crosswalk and extending three hundred feet on each approach 114  
direction of the state route. 115

(e) As used in this section, "special elementary school" 116  
means a school that meets all of the following criteria: 117

(i) It is not chartered and does not receive tax revenue 118  
from any source. 119

(ii) It does not educate children beyond the eighth grade. 120

(iii) It is located outside the limits of a municipal 121  
corporation. 122

(iv) A majority of the total number of students enrolled 123  
at the school are not related by blood. 124

(v) The principal or other person in charge of the special 125  
elementary school annually sends a report to the superintendent 126  
of the school district in which the special elementary school is 127  
located indicating the total number of students enrolled at the 128  
school, but otherwise the principal or other person in charge 129  
does not report any other information or data to the 130  
superintendent. 131

(2) Twenty-five miles per hour in all other portions of a 132  
municipal corporation, except on state routes outside business 133  
districts, through highways outside business districts, and 134  
alleys; 135

(3) Thirty-five miles per hour on all state routes or through highways within municipal corporations outside business districts, except as provided in divisions (B) (4) and (6) of this section;	136 137 138 139
(4) Fifty miles per hour on controlled-access highways and expressways within municipal corporations, except as provided in divisions (B) (12), (13), (14), (15), and (16) of this section;	140 141 142
(5) Fifty-five miles per hour on highways outside municipal corporations, other than highways within island jurisdictions as provided in division (B) (8) of this section, highways as provided in divisions (B) (9) and (10) of this section, and highways, expressways, and freeways as provided in divisions (B) (12), (13), (14), and (16) of this section;	143 144 145 146 147 148
(6) Fifty miles per hour on state routes within municipal corporations outside urban districts unless a lower prima-facie speed is established as further provided in this section;	149 150 151
(7) Fifteen miles per hour on all alleys within the municipal corporation;	152 153
(8) Thirty-five miles per hour on highways outside municipal corporations that are within an island jurisdiction;	154 155
(9) Thirty-five miles per hour on through highways, except state routes, that are outside municipal corporations and that are within a national park with boundaries extending through two or more counties;	156 157 158 159
(10) Sixty miles per hour on two-lane state routes outside municipal corporations as established by the director under division (H) (2) of this section;	160 161 162
(11) Fifty-five miles per hour on freeways with paved	163

shoulders inside municipal corporations, other than freeways as	164
provided in divisions (B) (14) and (16) of this section;	165
(12) Sixty miles per hour on rural expressways with	166
traffic control signals and on all portions of rural divided	167
highways, except as provided in divisions (B) (13) and (14) of	168
this section;	169
(13) Sixty-five miles per hour on all rural expressways	170
without traffic control signals;	171
(14) Seventy miles per hour on all rural freeways;	172
(15) Fifty-five miles per hour on all portions of freeways	173
or expressways in congested areas as determined by the director	174
and that are located within a municipal corporation or within an	175
interstate freeway outerbelt, except as provided in division (B)	176
(16) of this section;	177
(16) Sixty-five miles per hour on all portions of freeways	178
or expressways without traffic control signals in urbanized	179
areas.	180
(C) It is prima-facie unlawful for any person to exceed	181
any of the speed limitations in divisions (B) (1) (a), (2), (3),	182
(4), (6), (7), (8), and (9) of this section, or any declared or	183
established pursuant to this section by the director or local	184
authorities and it is unlawful for any person to exceed any of	185
the speed limitations in division (D) of this section. No person	186
shall be convicted of more than one violation of this section	187
for the same conduct, although violations of more than one	188
provision of this section may be charged in the alternative in a	189
single affidavit.	190
(D) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, trackless	191
trolley, or streetcar upon a street or highway as follows:	192

(1) At a speed exceeding fifty-five miles per hour, except	193
upon a two-lane state route as provided in division (B) (10) of	194
this section and upon a highway, expressway, or freeway as	195
provided in divisions (B) (12), (13), (14), and (16) of this	196
section;	197
(2) At a speed exceeding sixty miles per hour upon a two-	198
lane state route as provided in division (B) (10) of this section	199
and upon a highway as provided in division (B) (12) of this	200
section;	201
(3) At a speed exceeding sixty-five miles per hour upon an	202
expressway as provided in division (B) (13) or upon a freeway as	203
provided in division (B) (16) of this section, except upon a	204
freeway as provided in division (B) (14) of this section;	205
(4) At a speed exceeding seventy miles per hour upon a	206
freeway as provided in division (B) (14) of this section;	207
(5) At a speed exceeding the posted speed limit upon a	208
highway, expressway, or freeway for which the director has	209
determined and declared a speed limit pursuant to division (I)	210
(2) or (L) (2) of this section.	211
(E) In every charge of violation of this section the	212
affidavit and warrant shall specify the time, place, and speed	213
at which the defendant is alleged to have driven, and in charges	214
made in reliance upon division (C) of this section also the	215
speed which division (B) (1) (a), (2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), or	216
(9) of, or a limit declared or established pursuant to, this	217
section declares is prima-facie lawful at the time and place of	218
such alleged violation, except that in affidavits where a person	219
is alleged to have driven at a greater speed than will permit	220
the person to bring the vehicle to a stop within the assured	221



clear distance ahead the affidavit and warrant need not specify 222  
the speed at which the defendant is alleged to have driven. 223

(F) When a speed in excess of both a prima-facie 224  
limitation and a limitation in division (D) of this section is 225  
alleged, the defendant shall be charged in a single affidavit, 226  
alleging a single act, with a violation indicated of both 227  
division (B) (1) (a), (2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), or (9) of this 228  
section, or of a limit declared or established pursuant to this 229  
section by the director or local authorities, and of the 230  
limitation in division (D) of this section. If the court finds a 231  
violation of division (B) (1) (a), (2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), 232  
or (9) of, or a limit declared or established pursuant to, this 233  
section has occurred, it shall enter a judgment of conviction 234  
under such division and dismiss the charge under division (D) of 235  
this section. If it finds no violation of division (B) (1) (a), 236  
(2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), or (9) of, or a limit declared or 237  
established pursuant to, this section, it shall then consider 238  
whether the evidence supports a conviction under division (D) of 239  
this section. 240

(G) Points shall be assessed for violation of a limitation 241  
under division (D) of this section in accordance with section 242  
4510.036 of the Revised Code. 243

(H) (1) Whenever the director determines upon the basis of 244  
criteria established by an engineering study, as defined by the 245  
director, that any speed limit set forth in divisions (B) (1) (a) 246  
to (D) of this section is greater or less than is reasonable or 247  
safe under the conditions found to exist at any portion of a 248  
street or highway under the jurisdiction of the director, the 249  
director shall determine and declare a reasonable and safe 250  
prima-facie speed limit, which shall be effective when 251

appropriate signs giving notice of it are erected at the 252  
location. 253

(2) Whenever the director determines upon the basis of 254  
criteria established by an engineering study, as defined by the 255  
director, that the speed limit of fifty-five miles per hour on a 256  
two-lane state route outside a municipal corporation is less 257  
than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist 258  
at that portion of the state route, the director may determine 259  
and declare a speed limit of sixty miles per hour for that 260  
portion of the state route, which shall be effective when 261  
appropriate signs giving notice of it are erected at the 262  
location. 263

(3) (a) For purposes of the safe and orderly movement of 264  
traffic upon any portion of a street or highway under the 265  
jurisdiction of the director, the director may establish a 266  
variable speed limit that is different than the speed limit 267  
established by or under this section on all or portions of 268  
interstate six hundred seventy, interstate two hundred seventy- 269  
five, and interstate ninety commencing at the intersection of 270  
that interstate with interstate seventy-one and continuing to 271  
the border of the state of Ohio with the state of Pennsylvania. 272  
The director shall establish criteria for determining the 273  
appropriate use of variable speed limits and shall establish 274  
variable speed limits in accordance with the criteria. The 275  
director may establish variable speed limits based upon the time 276  
of day, weather conditions, traffic incidents, or other factors 277  
that affect the safe speed on a street or highway. The director 278  
shall not establish a variable speed limit that is based on a 279  
particular type or class of vehicle. A variable speed limit 280  
established by the director under this section is effective when 281  
appropriate signs giving notice of the speed limit are displayed 282

at the location. 283

(b) Except for variable speed limits established under 284  
division (H) (3) (a) of this section, the director shall establish 285  
a variable speed limit under the authority granted to the 286  
director by this section on not more than two additional 287  
highways and only pursuant to criteria established in rules 288  
adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. The 289  
rules shall be based on the criteria described in division (H) 290  
(3) (a) of this section. The rules also shall establish the 291  
parameters of any engineering study necessary for determining 292  
when variable speed limits are appropriate. 293

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit 294  
the authority of the director to establish speed limits within a 295  
construction zone as authorized under section 4511.98 of the 296  
Revised Code. 297

(I) (1) Except as provided in divisions (I) (2), (J), (K), 298  
and (N) of this section, whenever local authorities determine 299  
upon the basis of criteria established by an engineering study, 300  
as defined by the director, that the speed permitted by 301  
divisions (B) (1) (a) to (D) of this section, on any part of a 302  
highway under their jurisdiction, is greater than is reasonable 303  
and safe under the conditions found to exist at such location, 304  
the local authorities may by resolution request the director to 305  
determine and declare a reasonable and safe prima-facie speed 306  
limit. Upon receipt of such request the director may determine 307  
and declare a reasonable and safe prima-facie speed limit at 308  
such location, and if the director does so, then such declared 309  
speed limit shall become effective only when appropriate signs 310  
giving notice thereof are erected at such location by the local 311  
authorities. The director may withdraw the declaration of a 312

prima-facie speed limit whenever in the director's opinion the 313  
altered prima-facie speed limit becomes unreasonable. Upon such 314  
withdrawal, the declared prima-facie speed limit shall become 315  
ineffective and the signs relating thereto shall be immediately 316  
removed by the local authorities. 317

(2) A local authority may determine on the basis of 318  
criteria established by an engineering study, as defined by the 319  
director, that the speed limit of sixty-five or seventy miles 320  
per hour on a portion of a freeway under its jurisdiction is 321  
greater than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to 322  
exist at that portion of the freeway. If the local authority 323  
makes such a determination, the local authority by resolution 324  
may request the director to determine and declare a reasonable 325  
and safe speed limit of not less than fifty-five miles per hour 326  
for that portion of the freeway. If the director takes such 327  
action, the declared speed limit becomes effective only when 328  
appropriate signs giving notice of it are erected at such 329  
location by the local authority. 330

(J) Local authorities in their respective jurisdictions 331  
may authorize by ordinance higher prima-facie speeds than those 332  
stated in this section upon through highways, or upon highways 333  
or portions thereof where there are no intersections, or between 334  
widely spaced intersections, provided signs are erected giving 335  
notice of the authorized speed, but local authorities shall not 336  
modify or alter the basic rule set forth in division (A) of this 337  
section or in any event authorize by ordinance a speed in excess 338  
of the maximum speed permitted by division (D) of this section 339  
for the specified type of highway. 340

Alteration of prima-facie limits on state routes by local 341  
authorities shall not be effective until the alteration has been 342

approved by the director. The director may withdraw approval of 343  
any altered prima-facie speed limits whenever in the director's 344  
opinion any altered prima-facie speed becomes unreasonable, and 345  
upon such withdrawal, the altered prima-facie speed shall become 346  
ineffective and the signs relating thereto shall be immediately 347  
removed by the local authorities. 348

(K) (1) As used in divisions (K) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of 349  
this section, "unimproved highway" means a highway consisting of 350  
any of the following: 351

(a) Unimproved earth; 352

(b) Unimproved graded and drained earth; 353

(c) Gravel. 354

(2) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (K) (4) and 355  
(5) of this section, whenever a board of township trustees 356  
determines upon the basis of criteria established by an 357  
engineering study, as defined by the director, that the speed 358  
permitted by division (B) (5) of this section on any part of an 359  
unimproved highway under its jurisdiction and in the 360  
unincorporated territory of the township is greater than is 361  
reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist at the 362  
location, the board may by resolution declare a reasonable and 363  
safe prima-facie speed limit of fifty-five but not less than 364  
twenty-five miles per hour. An altered speed limit adopted by a 365  
board of township trustees under this division becomes effective 366  
when appropriate traffic control devices, as prescribed in 367  
section 4511.11 of the Revised Code, giving notice thereof are 368  
erected at the location, which shall be no sooner than sixty 369  
days after adoption of the resolution. 370

(3) (a) Whenever, in the opinion of a board of township 371

trustees, any altered prima-facie speed limit established by the 372  
board under this division becomes unreasonable, the board may 373  
adopt a resolution withdrawing the altered prima-facie speed 374  
limit. Upon the adoption of such a resolution, the altered 375  
prima-facie speed limit becomes ineffective and the traffic 376  
control devices relating thereto shall be immediately removed. 377

(b) Whenever a highway ceases to be an unimproved highway 378  
and the board has adopted an altered prima-facie speed limit 379  
pursuant to division (K) (2) of this section, the board shall, by 380  
resolution, withdraw the altered prima-facie speed limit as soon 381  
as the highway ceases to be unimproved. Upon the adoption of 382  
such a resolution, the altered prima-facie speed limit becomes 383  
ineffective and the traffic control devices relating thereto 384  
shall be immediately removed. 385

(4) (a) If the boundary of two townships rests on the 386  
centerline of an unimproved highway in unincorporated territory 387  
and both townships have jurisdiction over the highway, neither 388  
of the boards of township trustees of such townships may declare 389  
an altered prima-facie speed limit pursuant to division (K) (2) 390  
of this section on the part of the highway under their joint 391  
jurisdiction unless the boards of township trustees of both of 392  
the townships determine, upon the basis of criteria established 393  
by an engineering study, as defined by the director, that the 394  
speed permitted by division (B) (5) of this section is greater 395  
than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist 396  
at the location and both boards agree upon a reasonable and safe 397  
prima-facie speed limit of less than fifty-five but not less 398  
than twenty-five miles per hour for that location. If both 399  
boards so agree, each shall follow the procedure specified in 400  
division (K) (2) of this section for altering the prima-facie 401  
speed limit on the highway. Except as otherwise provided in 402

division (K) (4) (b) of this section, no speed limit altered 403  
pursuant to division (K) (4) (a) of this section may be withdrawn 404  
unless the boards of township trustees of both townships 405  
determine that the altered prima-facie speed limit previously 406  
adopted becomes unreasonable and each board adopts a resolution 407  
withdrawing the altered prima-facie speed limit pursuant to the 408  
procedure specified in division (K) (3) (a) of this section. 409

(b) Whenever a highway described in division (K) (4) (a) of 410  
this section ceases to be an unimproved highway and two boards 411  
of township trustees have adopted an altered prima-facie speed 412  
limit pursuant to division (K) (4) (a) of this section, both 413  
boards shall, by resolution, withdraw the altered prima-facie 414  
speed limit as soon as the highway ceases to be unimproved. Upon 415  
the adoption of the resolution, the altered prima-facie speed 416  
limit becomes ineffective and the traffic control devices 417  
relating thereto shall be immediately removed. 418

(5) As used in division (K) (5) of this section: 419

(a) "Commercial subdivision" means any platted territory 420  
outside the limits of a municipal corporation and fronting a 421  
highway where, for a distance of three hundred feet or more, the 422  
frontage is improved with buildings in use for commercial 423  
purposes, or where the entire length of the highway is less than 424  
three hundred feet long and the frontage is improved with 425  
buildings in use for commercial purposes. 426

(b) "Residential subdivision" means any platted territory 427  
outside the limits of a municipal corporation and fronting a 428  
highway, where, for a distance of three hundred feet or more, 429  
the frontage is improved with residences or residences and 430  
buildings in use for business, or where the entire length of the 431  
highway is less than three hundred feet long and the frontage is 432

improved with residences or residences and buildings in use for 433  
business. 434

Whenever a board of township trustees finds upon the basis 435  
of criteria established by an engineering study, as defined by 436  
the director, that the prima-facie speed permitted by division 437  
(B) (5) of this section on any part of a highway under its 438  
jurisdiction that is located in a commercial or residential 439  
subdivision, except on highways or portions thereof at the 440  
entrances to which vehicular traffic from the majority of 441  
intersecting highways is required to yield the right-of-way to 442  
vehicles on such highways in obedience to stop or yield signs or 443  
traffic control signals, is greater than is reasonable and safe 444  
under the conditions found to exist at the location, the board 445  
may by resolution declare a reasonable and safe prima-facie 446  
speed limit of less than fifty-five but not less than twenty- 447  
five miles per hour at the location. An altered speed limit 448  
adopted by a board of township trustees under this division 449  
shall become effective when appropriate signs giving notice 450  
thereof are erected at the location by the township. Whenever, 451  
in the opinion of a board of township trustees, any altered 452  
prima-facie speed limit established by it under this division 453  
becomes unreasonable, it may adopt a resolution withdrawing the 454  
altered prima-facie speed, and upon such withdrawal, the altered 455  
prima-facie speed shall become ineffective, and the signs 456  
relating thereto shall be immediately removed by the township. 457

(L) (1) The director of transportation, based upon an 458  
engineering study, as defined by the director, of a highway, 459  
expressway, or freeway described in division (B) (12), (13), 460  
(14), (15), or (16) of this section, in consultation with the 461  
director of public safety and, if applicable, the local 462  
authority having jurisdiction over the studied highway, 463



expressway, or freeway, may determine and declare that the speed 464  
limit established on such highway, expressway, or freeway under 465  
division (B) (12), (13), (14), (15), or (16) of this section 466  
either is reasonable and safe or is more or less than that which 467  
is reasonable and safe. 468

(2) If the established speed limit for a highway, 469  
expressway, or freeway studied pursuant to division (L) (1) of 470  
this section is determined to be more or less than that which is 471  
reasonable and safe, the director of transportation, in 472  
consultation with the director of public safety and, if 473  
applicable, the local authority having jurisdiction over the 474  
studied highway, expressway, or freeway, shall determine and 475  
declare a reasonable and safe speed limit for that highway, 476  
expressway, or freeway. 477

(M) (1) (a) If the boundary of two local authorities rests 478  
on the centerline of a highway and both authorities have 479  
jurisdiction over the highway, the speed limit for the part of 480  
the highway within their joint jurisdiction shall be either one 481  
of the following as agreed to by both authorities: 482

(i) Either prima-facie speed limit permitted by division 483  
(B) of this section; 484

(ii) An altered speed limit determined and posted in 485  
accordance with this section. 486

(b) If the local authorities are unable to reach an 487  
agreement, the speed limit shall remain as established and 488  
posted under this section. 489

(2) Neither local authority may declare an altered prima- 490  
facie speed limit pursuant to this section on the part of the 491  
highway under their joint jurisdiction unless both of the local 492

authorities determine, upon the basis of criteria established by 493  
an engineering study, as defined by the director, that the speed 494  
permitted by this section is greater than is reasonable or safe 495  
under the conditions found to exist at the location and both 496  
authorities agree upon a uniform reasonable and safe prima-facie 497  
speed limit of less than fifty-five but not less than twenty- 498  
five miles per hour for that location. If both authorities so 499  
agree, each shall follow the procedure specified in this section 500  
for altering the prima-facie speed limit on the highway, and the 501  
speed limit for the part of the highway within their joint 502  
jurisdiction shall be uniformly altered. No altered speed limit 503  
may be withdrawn unless both local authorities determine that 504  
the altered prima-facie speed limit previously adopted becomes 505  
unreasonable and each adopts a resolution withdrawing the 506  
altered prima-facie speed limit pursuant to the procedure 507  
specified in this section. 508

(N) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation 509  
or township in which a boarding school is located, by resolution 510  
or ordinance, may establish a boarding school zone. The 511  
legislative authority may alter the speed limit on any street or 512  
highway within the boarding school zone and shall specify the 513  
hours during which the altered speed limit is in effect. For 514  
purposes of determining the boundaries of the boarding school 515  
zone, the altered speed limit within the boarding school zone, 516  
and the hours the altered speed limit is in effect, the 517  
legislative authority shall consult with the administration of 518  
the boarding school and with the county engineer or other 519  
appropriate engineer, as applicable. A boarding school zone 520  
speed limit becomes effective only when appropriate signs giving 521  
notice thereof are erected at the appropriate locations. 522

(O) As used in this section: 523

(1) "Interstate system" has the same meaning as in 23 U.S.C. 101.	524 525
(2) "Commercial bus" means a motor vehicle designed for carrying more than nine passengers and used for the transportation of persons for compensation.	526 527 528
(3) "Noncommercial bus" includes but is not limited to a school bus or a motor vehicle operated solely for the transportation of persons associated with a charitable or nonprofit organization.	529 530 531 532
(4) "Outerbelt" means a portion of a freeway that is part of the interstate system and is located in the outer vicinity of a major municipal corporation or group of municipal corporations, as designated by the director.	533 534 535 536
(5) "Rural" means an area outside urbanized areas and outside of a business or urban district, and areas that extend within urbanized areas where the roadway characteristics remain mostly unchanged from those outside the urbanized areas.	537 538 539 540
(6) "Urbanized area" has the same meaning as in 23 U.S.C. 101.	541 542
(7) "Divided" means a roadway having two or more travel lanes for vehicles moving in opposite directions and that is separated by a median of more than four feet, excluding turn lanes.	543 544 545 546
(P) (1) A violation of any provision of this section is one of the following:	547 548
(a) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (P) (1) (b), (1) (c), (2), <del>and (3)</del> , <u>and (4)</u> of this section, a minor misdemeanor;	549 550 551

(b) If, within one year of the offense, the offender 552  
previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two 553  
violations of any provision of this section or of any provision 554  
of a municipal ordinance that is substantially similar to any 555  
provision of this section, a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; 556

(c) If, within one year of the offense, the offender 557  
previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or 558  
more violations of any provision of this section or of any 559  
provision of a municipal ordinance that is substantially similar 560  
to any provision of this section, a misdemeanor of the third 561  
degree. 562

(2) If the offender operated a motor vehicle faster than 563  
thirty-five miles an hour in a business district of a municipal 564  
corporation, faster than fifty miles an hour in other portions 565  
of a municipal corporation, or faster than thirty-five miles an 566  
hour in a school zone during recess or while children are going 567  
to or leaving school during the school's opening or closing 568  
hours, a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. Division (P) (2) of 569  
this section does not apply if penalties may be imposed under 570  
division (P) (1) (b) or (c) of this section. 571

(3) Notwithstanding division (P) (1) of this section, if 572  
the offender operated a motor vehicle in a construction zone 573  
where a sign was then posted in accordance with section 4511.98 574  
of the Revised Code, the court, in addition to all other 575  
penalties provided by law, shall impose upon the offender a fine 576  
of two times the usual amount imposed for the violation. No 577  
court shall impose a fine of two times the usual amount imposed 578  
for the violation upon an offender if the offender alleges, in 579  
an affidavit filed with the court prior to the offender's 580  
sentencing, that the offender is indigent and is unable to pay 581

the fine imposed pursuant to this division and if the court 582  
determines that the offender is an indigent person and unable to 583  
pay the fine. 584

(4) Notwithstanding division (P)(1) of this section, if 585  
the offender operated a motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 586  
thirty miles per hour over the statutory or posted speed limit, 587  
the court, in addition to all other penalties provided by law, 588  
shall impose upon the offender a fine that is two hundred 589  
dollars more than the usual amount imposed for the violation. No 590  
court shall impose the additional fine specified in this 591  
division upon an offender if the offender alleges, in an 592  
affidavit filed with the court prior to the offender's 593  
sentencing, that the offender is indigent and unable to pay the 594  
fine imposed pursuant to this division and if the court 595  
determines that the offender is an indigent person and unable to 596  
pay the fine. 597

(5) If the offender commits the offense while distracted 598  
and the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 599  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 600  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 601  
Revised Code. 602

**Section 2.** That existing section 4511.21 of the Revised 603  
Code is hereby repealed. 604