

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2025-2026**

**H. B. No. 203**

**Representatives Hall, T., Williams**

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To amend sections 2903.06, 2903.08, 2903.081, 1  
4511.01, 4511.132, 4511.20, 4511.202, 4511.204, 2  
4511.205, 4511.21, 4511.25, 4511.251, 4511.26, 3  
4511.27, 4511.28, 4511.29, 4511.30, 4511.31, 4  
4511.32, 4511.33, 4511.34, 4511.35, 4511.36, 5  
4511.37, 4511.38, 4511.39, 4511.41, 4511.42, 6  
4511.43, 4511.431, 4511.44, 4511.441, 4511.46, 7  
4511.54, 4511.60, 4511.711, 4511.712, and 8  
5501.27 and to enact section 4510.039 of the 9  
Revised Code to increase penalties for vehicular 10  
assault and vehicular homicide that occur in an 11  
active school zone, to require doubled fines for 12  
specified traffic violations in an active school 13  
zone, and to name this act Aspen Runnels' Law. 14

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

**Section 1.** That sections 2903.06, 2903.08, 2903.081, 15  
4511.01, 4511.132, 4511.20, 4511.202, 4511.204, 4511.205, 16  
4511.21, 4511.25, 4511.251, 4511.26, 4511.27, 4511.28, 4511.29, 17  
4511.30, 4511.31, 4511.32, 4511.33, 4511.34, 4511.35, 4511.36, 18  
4511.37, 4511.38, 4511.39, 4511.41, 4511.42, 4511.43, 4511.431, 19  
4511.44, 4511.441, 4511.46, 4511.54, 4511.60, 4511.711, 20  
4511.712, and 5501.27 be amended and section 4510.039 of the 21

Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 22

**Sec. 2903.06.** (A) No person, while operating or 23  
participating in the operation of a motor vehicle, motorcycle, 24  
utility vehicle, mini-truck, snowmobile, locomotive, watercraft, 25  
or aircraft, shall cause the death of another or the unlawful 26  
termination of another's pregnancy in any of the following ways: 27

(1) As the proximate result of committing an OVI offense. 28

(2) In one of the following ways: 29

(a) Recklessly; 30

(b) As the proximate result of committing, while operating 31  
or participating in the operation of a motor vehicle, utility 32  
vehicle, mini-truck, or motorcycle in a construction zone or an 33  
active school zone, a reckless operation offense, provided that 34  
this division applies only if the person whose death is caused 35  
or whose pregnancy is unlawfully terminated is in the 36  
construction zone or an active school zone at the time of the 37  
offender's commission of the reckless operation offense in the 38  
construction zone or an active school zone and does not apply as 39  
described in division (F) of this section. 40

(3) In one of the following ways: 41

(a) Negligently; 42

(b) As the proximate result of committing, while operating 43  
or participating in the operation of a motor vehicle, utility 44  
vehicle, mini-truck, or motorcycle in a construction zone, a 45  
speeding offense, provided that this division applies only if 46  
the person whose death is caused or whose pregnancy is 47  
unlawfully terminated is in the construction zone at the time of 48  
the offender's commission of the speeding offense in the 49

construction zone and does not apply as described in division 50  
(F) of this section; 51

(c) As the proximate result of committing, while operating 52  
or participating in the operation of a motor vehicle, utility 53  
vehicle, mini-truck, or motorcycle in an active school zone, a 54  
speeding offense, provided that this division applies only if 55  
the person whose death is caused or whose pregnancy is 56  
unlawfully terminated is in the active school zone at the time 57  
of the offender's commission of the speeding offense in the 58  
active school zone and does not apply as described in division 59  
(F) of this section. 60

~~(4)~~ (a) As the proximate result of committing a 61  
violation of any provision of any section contained in Title XLV 62  
of the Revised Code that is a minor misdemeanor or of a 63  
municipal ordinance that, regardless of the penalty set by 64  
ordinance for the violation, is substantially equivalent to any 65  
provision of any section contained in Title XLV of the Revised 66  
Code that is a minor misdemeanor. 67

(b) As the proximate result of committing, within an 68  
active school zone, a violation of any provision of any section 69  
contained in Title XLV of the Revised Code that is a minor 70  
misdemeanor or of a municipal ordinance that, regardless of the 71  
penalty set by ordinance for the violation, is substantially 72  
equivalent to any provision of any section contained in Title 73  
XLV of the Revised Code that is a minor misdemeanor, provided 74  
that this division applies only if the person whose death is 75  
caused or whose pregnancy is unlawfully terminated is in the 76  
active school zone at the time of the offender's commission of 77  
the offense in the active school zone and does not apply as 78  
described in division (F) of this section. 79

(B) (1) Whoever violates division (A) (1) or (2) of this section is guilty of aggravated vehicular homicide and shall be punished as provided in divisions (B) (2) and (3) of this section.

(2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) (b), (c), or (d) of this section, aggravated vehicular homicide committed in violation of division (A) (1) of this section is a felony of the second degree and the court shall impose a mandatory prison term on the offender as described in division (E) of this section.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) (c) or (d) of this section, aggravated vehicular homicide committed in violation of division (A) (1) of this section is a felony of the first degree, and the court shall impose a mandatory prison term on the offender as described in division (E) of this section, if any of the following apply:

(i) At the time of the offense, the offender was driving under a suspension or cancellation imposed under Chapter 4510. or any other provision of the Revised Code or was operating a motor vehicle or motorcycle, did not have a valid driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege, and was not eligible for renewal of the offender's driver's license or commercial driver's license without examination under section 4507.10 of the Revised Code.

(ii) The offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one prior OVI offense within the previous twenty years.

(iii) The offender previously has been convicted of or

pleaded guilty to one prior traffic-related homicide, 109  
manslaughter, or assault offense within the previous twenty 110  
years. 111

(c) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) (d) of 112  
this section, aggravated vehicular homicide committed in 113  
violation of division (A) (1) of this section is a felony of the 114  
first degree, and the court shall sentence the offender to a 115  
mandatory prison term as provided in section 2929.142 of the 116  
Revised Code and described in division (E) of this section if 117  
any of the following apply: 118

(i) The offender previously has been convicted of or 119  
pleaded guilty to two prior OVI offenses within the previous 120  
twenty years. 121

(ii) The offender previously has been convicted of or 122  
pleaded guilty to two prior traffic-related homicide, 123  
manslaughter, or assault offenses within the previous twenty 124  
years. 125

(iii) The offender previously has been convicted of or 126  
pleaded guilty to two prior violations of any combination of the 127  
offenses listed in division (B) (2) (c) (i) and (ii) of this 128  
section within the previous twenty years. 129

(d) Aggravated vehicular homicide committed in violation 130  
of division (A) (1) of this section is a felony of the first 131  
degree, and the court shall sentence the offender to a mandatory 132  
prison term as provided in section 2929.142 of the Revised Code 133  
and described in division (E) of this section if any of the 134  
following apply: 135

(i) The offender previously has been convicted of or 136  
pleaded guilty to three or more prior OVI offenses within the 137

previous twenty years.	138
(ii) The offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more prior traffic-related homicide, manslaughter, or assault offenses within the previous twenty years.	139 140 141 142
(iii) The offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more prior violations of any combination of the offenses listed in divisions (B) (2) (d) (i) and (ii) of this section within the previous twenty years.	143 144 145 146
(e) In addition to any other sanctions imposed pursuant to division (B) (2) (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this section for aggravated vehicular homicide committed in violation of division (A) (1) of this section, the court shall impose upon the offender a class one suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege as specified in division (A) (1) of section 4510.02 of the Revised Code.	147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155
Divisions (A) (1) to (3) of section 4510.54 of the Revised Code apply to a suspension imposed under division (B) (2) (e) of this section.	156 157 158
(f) Notwithstanding section 2929.18 of the Revised Code, and in addition to any other sanctions imposed pursuant to division (B) (2) of this section for aggravated vehicular homicide committed in violation of division (A) (1) of this section, the court shall impose upon the offender a fine of not more than twenty-five thousand dollars.	159 160 161 162 163 164
(3) Except as otherwise provided in this division, aggravated vehicular homicide committed in violation of division	165 166

(A) (2) of this section is a felony of the third degree. 167  
Aggravated vehicular homicide committed in violation of division 168  
(A) (2) of this section is a felony of the second degree if, at 169  
the time of the offense, the offender was driving under a 170  
suspension or cancellation imposed under Chapter 4510. or any 171  
other provision of the Revised Code or was operating a motor 172  
vehicle or motorcycle, did not have a valid driver's license, 173  
commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, 174  
probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege, and 175  
was not eligible for renewal of the offender's driver's license 176  
or commercial driver's license without examination under section 177  
4507.10 of the Revised Code or if the offender previously has 178  
been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of this 179  
section or any traffic-related homicide, manslaughter, or 180  
assault offense. The court shall impose a mandatory prison term 181  
on the offender when required by division (E) of this section. 182

In addition to any other sanctions imposed pursuant to 183  
this division for a violation of division (A) (2) of this 184  
section, the court shall impose upon the offender a class two 185  
suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial 186  
driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary 187  
license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range 188  
specified in division (A) (2) of section 4510.02 of the Revised 189  
Code or, if the offender previously has been convicted of or 190  
pleaded guilty to a traffic-related murder, felonious assault, 191  
or attempted murder offense, a class one suspension of the 192  
offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, 193  
temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or 194  
nonresident operating privilege as specified in division (A) (1) 195  
of that section. 196

(C) Whoever violates division ~~(A) (3)~~ (A) (3) (a) or (A) (3) (b) 197

of this section is guilty of vehicular homicide. Except as 198  
otherwise provided in this division, vehicular homicide is a 199  
misdemeanor of the first degree. Vehicular homicide committed in 200  
violation of division ~~(A) (3)~~ (A) (3) (a) or (A) (3) (b) of this 201  
section is a felony of the fourth degree if, at the time of the 202  
offense, the offender was driving under a suspension or 203  
cancellation imposed under Chapter 4510. or any other provision 204  
of the Revised Code or was operating a motor vehicle or 205  
motorcycle, did not have a valid driver's license, commercial 206  
driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary 207  
license, or nonresident operating privilege, and was not 208  
eligible for renewal of the offender's driver's license or 209  
commercial driver's license without examination under section 210  
4507.10 of the Revised Code or if the offender previously has 211  
been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of this 212  
section or any traffic-related homicide, manslaughter, or 213  
assault offense. The court shall impose a mandatory jail term or 214  
a mandatory prison term on the offender when required by 215  
division (E) of this section. 216

In addition to any other sanctions imposed pursuant to 217  
this division, the court shall impose upon the offender a class 218  
four suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial 219  
driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary 220  
license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range 221  
specified in division (A) (4) of section 4510.02 of the Revised 222  
Code, or, if the offender previously has been convicted of or 223  
pleaded guilty to a violation of this section or any traffic- 224  
related homicide, manslaughter, or assault offense, a class 225  
three suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial 226  
driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary 227  
license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range 228



specified in division (A) (3) of that section, or, if the 229  
offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a 230  
traffic-related murder, felonious assault, or attempted murder 231  
offense, a class two suspension of the offender's driver's 232  
license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction 233  
permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege 234  
as specified in division (A) (2) of that section. 235

~~(D)~~ (D) (1) Whoever violates division ~~(A) (4)~~ (A) (3) (c), (A) 236  
(4) (a), or (A) (4) (b) of this section is guilty of vehicular 237  
manslaughter and shall be punished as provided in divisions (D) 238  
(2) and (3) of this section. Except 239

(2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in ~~this~~ division (D) 240  
(2) (b) of this section, vehicular manslaughter committed in 241  
violation of division (A) (3) (c) or (A) (4) (b) of this section is 242  
a felony of the fourth degree and the court shall impose a 243  
mandatory prison term on the offender as described in division 244  
(E) of this section. 245

(b) Vehicular manslaughter committed in violation of 246  
division (A) (3) (c) or (A) (4) (b) of this section is a felony of 247  
the third degree, and the court shall impose a mandatory prison 248  
term on the offender as described in division (E) of this 249  
section, if, at the time of the offense, the offender was 250  
driving under a suspension or cancellation imposed under Chapter 251  
4510. or any other provision of the Revised Code or was 252  
operating a motor vehicle or motorcycle, did not have a valid 253  
driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary 254  
instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident 255  
operating privilege, and was not eligible for renewal of the 256  
offender's driver's license or commercial driver's license 257  
without examination under section 4507.10 of the Revised Code or 258

if the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded 259  
guilty to a violation of this section or any traffic-related 260  
homicide, manslaughter, or assault offense. 261

(3) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) (3) (b) 262  
of this section, vehicular manslaughter committed in violation 263  
of division (A) (4) (a) of this section is a misdemeanor of the 264  
second degree. ~~Vehicular~~ 265

(b) Vehicular manslaughter committed in violation of 266  
division (A) (4) (a) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first 267  
degree if, at the time of the offense, the offender was driving 268  
under a suspension or cancellation imposed under Chapter 4510. 269  
or any other provision of the Revised Code or was operating a 270  
motor vehicle or motorcycle, did not have a valid driver's 271  
license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction 272  
permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating 273  
privilege, and was not eligible for renewal of the offender's 274  
driver's license or commercial driver's license without 275  
examination under section 4507.10 of the Revised Code or if the 276  
offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a 277  
violation of this section or any traffic-related homicide, 278  
manslaughter, or assault offense. 279

(4) In addition to any other sanctions imposed pursuant to 280  
~~this division~~ (D) (2) or (3) of this section, the court shall 281  
impose upon the offender a class six suspension of the 282  
offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, 283  
temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or 284  
nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in 285  
division (A) (6) of section 4510.02 of the Revised Code or, if 286  
the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty 287  
to a violation of this section, any traffic-related homicide, 288

manslaughter, or assault offense, or a traffic-related murder, 289  
felonious assault, or attempted murder offense, a class four 290  
suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial 291  
driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary 292  
license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range 293  
specified in division (A) (4) of that section. 294

(E) (1) The court shall impose a mandatory prison term on 295  
an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation 296  
of division (A) (1) of this section. Except as otherwise provided 297  
in this division, the mandatory prison term shall be a definite 298  
term from the range of prison terms provided in division (A) (1) 299  
(b) of section 2929.14 of the Revised Code for a felony of the 300  
first degree or from division (A) (2) (b) of that section for a 301  
felony of the second degree, whichever is applicable, except 302  
that if the violation is committed on or after March 22, 2019, 303  
the court shall impose as the minimum prison term for the 304  
offense a mandatory prison term that is one of the minimum terms 305  
prescribed for a felony of the first degree in division (A) (1) 306  
(a) of section 2929.14 of the Revised Code or one of the terms 307  
prescribed for a felony of the second degree in division (A) (2) 308  
(a) of that section, whichever is applicable. If division (B) (2) 309  
(c) or (d) of this section applies to an offender who is 310  
convicted of or pleads guilty to the violation of division (A) 311  
(1) of this section, the court shall impose the mandatory prison 312  
term pursuant to division (A) or (B) of section 2929.142 of the 313  
Revised Code, as applicable. The court shall impose a mandatory 314  
jail term of at least fifteen days on an offender who is 315  
convicted of or pleads guilty to a misdemeanor violation of 316  
division (A) (3) (b) of this section and may impose upon the 317  
offender a longer jail term as authorized pursuant to section 318  
2929.24 of the Revised Code. 319

(2) The court shall impose a mandatory prison term on an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of division (A) (2) or (3) (a) of this section or a felony violation of division (A) (3) (b) of this section if either division (E) (2) (a) or (b) of this section applies. The mandatory prison term shall be a definite term from the range of prison terms provided in division (A) (3) (a) of section 2929.14 of the Revised Code for a felony of the third degree or from division (A) (4) of that section for a felony of the fourth degree, whichever is applicable. The court shall impose a mandatory prison term on an offender in a category described in this division if either of the following applies:

(a) The offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of this section or section 2903.08 of the Revised Code.

(b) At the time of the offense, the offender was driving under suspension or cancellation under Chapter 4510. or any other provision of the Revised Code or was operating a motor vehicle or motorcycle, did not have a valid driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege, and was not eligible for renewal of the offender's driver's license or commercial driver's license without examination under section 4507.10 of the Revised Code.

(3) The court shall impose a mandatory prison term on an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of division (A) (3) (c) or (4) (b) of this section. The mandatory prison term shall be a definite term from the range of prison terms provided in division (A) (3) (a) of section 2929.14 of the Revised Code for a felony of the third degree or from division

(A) (4) of that section for a felony of the fourth degree, 350  
whichever is applicable. 351

(F) Divisions (A) (2) (b) ~~and~~, (3) (b), (3) (c), and (4) (b) 352  
of this section do not apply in a particular construction zone 353  
or active school zone unless signs of the type described in 354  
section 2903.081 of the Revised Code are erected in that 355  
construction zone or active school zone in accordance with the 356  
guidelines and design specifications established by the director 357  
of transportation under section 5501.27 of the Revised Code. The 358  
failure to erect signs of the type described in section 2903.081 359  
of the Revised Code in a particular construction zone or active 360  
school zone in accordance with those guidelines and design 361  
specifications does not limit or affect the application of 362  
division (A) (1), (A) (2) (a), (A) (3) (a), or ~~(A) (4)~~ (A) (4) (a) of 363  
this section in that construction zone or active school zone or 364  
the prosecution of any person who violates any of those 365  
divisions in that construction zone or active school zone. 366

(G) (1) As used in this section: 367

(a) "Mandatory prison term" and "mandatory jail term" have 368  
the same meanings as in section 2929.01 of the Revised Code. 369

(b) "Traffic-related homicide, manslaughter, or assault 370  
offense" means a violation of section 2903.04 of the Revised 371  
Code in circumstances in which division (D) of that section 372  
applies, a violation of section 2903.06 or 2903.08 of the 373  
Revised Code, or a violation of section 2903.06, 2903.07, or 374  
2903.08 of the Revised Code as they existed prior to March 23, 375  
2000. 376

(c) "Construction zone" has the same meaning as in section 377  
5501.27 of the Revised Code. 378

(d) "Reckless operation offense" means a violation of 379  
section 4511.20 of the Revised Code or a municipal ordinance 380  
substantially equivalent to section 4511.20 of the Revised Code. 381

(e) "Speeding offense" means a violation of section 382  
4511.21 of the Revised Code or a municipal ordinance pertaining 383  
to speed. 384

(f) "Traffic-related murder, felonious assault, or 385  
attempted murder offense" means a violation of section 2903.01 386  
or 2903.02 of the Revised Code in circumstances in which the 387  
offender used a motor vehicle as the means to commit the 388  
violation, a violation of division (A) (2) of section 2903.11 of 389  
the Revised Code in circumstances in which the deadly weapon 390  
used in the commission of the violation is a motor vehicle, or 391  
an attempt to commit aggravated murder or murder in violation of 392  
section 2923.02 of the Revised Code in circumstances in which 393  
the offender used a motor vehicle as the means to attempt to 394  
commit the aggravated murder or murder. 395

(g) "Motor vehicle," "mini-truck," and "utility vehicle" 396  
have the same meanings as in section 4501.01 of the Revised 397  
Code. 398

(h) "OVI offense" means a violation of division (A) of 399  
section 4511.19 of the Revised Code, a violation of division (A) 400  
of section 1547.11 of the Revised Code, a violation of division 401  
(A) (3) of section 4561.15 of the Revised Code, or a 402  
substantially equivalent municipal ordinance. 403

(i) "Active school zone" has the same meaning as in 404  
section 4511.01 of the Revised Code. 405

(2) For the purposes of this section, when a penalty or 406  
suspension is enhanced because of a prior or current violation 407

of a specified law or a prior or current specified offense, the 408  
reference to the violation of the specified law or the specified 409  
offense includes any violation of any substantially equivalent 410  
municipal ordinance, former law of this state, or current or 411  
former law of another state or the United States. 412

**Sec. 2903.08.** (A) No person, while operating or 413  
participating in the operation of a motor vehicle, motorcycle, 414  
utility vehicle, mini-truck, snowmobile, locomotive, watercraft, 415  
or aircraft, shall cause serious physical harm to another person 416  
or another's unborn in any of the following ways: 417

(1) (a) As the proximate result of committing a violation 418  
of division (A) of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code or of a 419  
substantially equivalent municipal ordinance; 420

(b) As the proximate result of committing a violation of 421  
division (A) of section 1547.11 of the Revised Code or of a 422  
substantially equivalent municipal ordinance; 423

(c) As the proximate result of committing a violation of 424  
division (A) (3) of section 4561.15 of the Revised Code or of a 425  
substantially equivalent municipal ordinance. 426

(2) In one of the following ways: 427

(a) As the proximate result of committing, while operating 428  
or participating in the operation of a motor vehicle, utility 429  
vehicle, mini-truck, or motorcycle in a construction zone or an 430  
active school zone, a reckless operation offense, provided that 431  
this division applies only if the person to whom the serious 432  
physical harm is caused or to whose unborn the serious physical 433  
harm is caused is in the construction zone or an active school 434  
zone at the time of the offender's commission of the reckless 435  
operation offense in the construction zone or an active school 436

zone and does not apply as described in division (E) of this 437  
section; 438

(b) Recklessly. 439

~~(3)~~(3) (a) As the proximate result of committing, while 440  
operating or participating in the operation of a motor vehicle, 441  
utility vehicle, mini-truck, or motorcycle in a construction 442  
zone, a speeding offense, provided that this division applies 443  
only if the person to whom the serious physical harm is caused 444  
or to whose unborn the serious physical harm is caused is in the 445  
construction zone at the time of the offender's commission of 446  
the speeding offense in the construction zone and does not apply 447  
as described in division (E) of this section. 448

(b) As the proximate result of committing, while operating 449  
or participating in the operation of a motor vehicle, utility 450  
vehicle, mini-truck, or motorcycle in an active school zone, a 451  
speeding offense, provided that this division applies only if 452  
the person to whom the serious physical harm is caused or to 453  
whose unborn the serious physical harm is caused is in the 454  
active school zone at the time of the offender's commission of 455  
the speeding offense in the active school zone and does not 456  
apply as described in division (E) of this section. 457

(c) As the proximate result of committing, within an 458  
active school zone, a violation of any provision of any section 459  
contained in Title XLV of the Revised Code that is a minor 460  
misdemeanor or of a municipal ordinance that, regardless of the 461  
penalty set by ordinance for the violation, is substantially 462  
equivalent to any provision of any section contained in Title 463  
XLV of the Revised Code that is a minor misdemeanor, provided 464  
that this division applies only if the person to whom the 465  
serious physical harm is caused or to whose unborn the serious 466



physical harm is caused is in the active school zone at the time 467  
of the offender's commission of the speeding offense in the 468  
active school zone and does not apply as described in division 469  
(E) of this section. 470

(B) (1) Whoever violates division (A) (1) of this section is 471  
guilty of aggravated vehicular assault. Except as otherwise 472  
provided in this division, aggravated vehicular assault is a 473  
felony of the third degree. Aggravated vehicular assault is a 474  
felony of the second degree if any of the following apply: 475

(a) At the time of the offense, the offender was driving 476  
under a suspension imposed under Chapter 4510. or any other 477  
provision of the Revised Code. 478

(b) The offender previously has been convicted of or 479  
pleaded guilty to a violation of this section. 480

(c) The offender previously has been convicted of or 481  
pleaded guilty to any traffic-related homicide, manslaughter, or 482  
assault offense. 483

(d) The offender previously has been convicted of or 484  
pleaded guilty to three or more prior violations of division (A) 485  
of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code or a substantially 486  
equivalent municipal ordinance within the previous ten years. 487

(e) The offender previously has been convicted of or 488  
pleaded guilty to three or more prior violations of division (A) 489  
of section 1547.11 of the Revised Code or of a substantially 490  
equivalent municipal ordinance within the previous ten years. 491

(f) The offender previously has been convicted of or 492  
pleaded guilty to three or more prior violations of division (A) 493  
(3) of section 4561.15 of the Revised Code or of a substantially 494  
equivalent municipal ordinance within the previous ten years. 495

(g) The offender previously has been convicted of or 496  
pleaded guilty to three or more prior violations of any 497  
combination of the offenses listed in division (B) (1) (d), (e), 498  
or (f) of this section. 499

(h) The offender previously has been convicted of or 500  
pleaded guilty to a second or subsequent felony violation of 501  
division (A) of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code. 502

(2) In addition to any other sanctions imposed pursuant to 503  
division (B) (1) of this section, except as otherwise provided in 504  
this division, the court shall impose upon the offender a class 505  
three suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial 506  
driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary 507  
license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range 508  
specified in division (A) (3) of section 4510.02 of the Revised 509  
Code. If the offender previously has been convicted of or 510  
pleaded guilty to a violation of this section, any traffic- 511  
related homicide, manslaughter, or assault offense, or any 512  
traffic-related murder, felonious assault, or attempted murder 513  
offense, the court shall impose either a class two suspension of 514  
the offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, 515  
temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or 516  
nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in 517  
division (A) (2) of that section or a class one suspension as 518  
specified in division (A) (1) of that section. 519

(C) (1) Whoever violates division (A) (2) or (3) of this 520  
section is guilty of vehicular assault and shall be punished as 521  
provided in divisions (C) (2) and (3) of this section. 522

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this division, 523  
vehicular assault committed in violation of division (A) (2) of 524  
this section is a felony of the fourth degree. Vehicular assault 525

committed in violation of division (A) (2) of this section is a 526  
felony of the third degree if, at the time of the offense, the 527  
offender was driving under a suspension imposed under Chapter 528  
4510. or any other provision of the Revised Code, if the 529  
offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a 530  
violation of this section or any traffic-related homicide, 531  
manslaughter, or assault offense, or if, in the same course of 532  
conduct that resulted in the violation of division (A) (2) of 533  
this section, the offender also violated section 4549.02, 534  
4549.021, or 4549.03 of the Revised Code. 535

In addition to any other sanctions imposed, the court 536  
shall impose upon the offender a class four suspension of the 537  
offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, 538  
temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or 539  
nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in 540  
division (A) (4) of section 4510.02 of the Revised Code or, if 541  
the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty 542  
to a violation of this section, any traffic-related homicide, 543  
manslaughter, or assault offense, or any traffic-related murder, 544  
felonious assault, or attempted murder offense, a class three 545  
suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial 546  
driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary 547  
license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range 548  
specified in division (A) (3) of that section. 549

~~(3)~~(3) (a) Except as otherwise provided in ~~this division~~ 550  
(C) (3) (c) of this section, vehicular assault committed in 551  
violation of division (A) (3) (a) of this section is a misdemeanor 552  
of the first degree. 553

(b) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (3) (c) of 554  
this section, vehicular assault committed in violation of 555

division (A) (3) (b) or (A) (3) (c) of this section is a felony of 556  
the fifth degree. 557

(c) Vehicular assault committed in violation of division 558  
~~(A) (3)~~ (A) (3) (a), (b), or (c) of this section is a felony of the 559  
fourth degree if, at the time of the offense, the offender was 560  
driving under a suspension imposed under Chapter 4510. or any 561  
other provision of the Revised Code or if the offender 562  
previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a 563  
violation of this section or any traffic-related homicide, 564  
manslaughter, or assault offense. 565

(d) In addition to any other sanctions imposed under 566  
division (C) (3) (a), (b), or (c) of this section, the court shall 567  
impose upon the offender a class four suspension of the 568  
offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, 569  
temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or 570  
nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in 571  
division (A) (4) of section 4510.02 of the Revised Code or, if 572  
the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty 573  
to a violation of this section, any traffic-related homicide, 574  
manslaughter, or assault offense, or any traffic-related murder, 575  
felonious assault, or attempted murder offense, a class three 576  
suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial 577  
driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary 578  
license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range 579  
specified in division (A) (3) of section 4510.02 of the Revised 580  
Code. 581

(D) (1) The court shall impose a mandatory prison term, as 582  
described in division (D) (4) of this section, on an offender who 583  
is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of division (A) 584  
(1) of this section. 585

(2) The court shall impose a mandatory prison term, as 586  
described in division (D) (4) of this section, on an offender who 587  
is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of division (A) 588  
(2), (A) (3) (b), or (A) (3) (c) of this section or a felony 589  
violation of division ~~(A) (3)~~ (A) (3) (a) of this section ~~if either~~ 590  
~~of the following applies:~~ 591

~~(a) The offender previously has been convicted of or~~ 592  
~~pleaded guilty to a violation of this section or section 2903.06~~ 593  
~~of the Revised Code.~~ 594

~~(b) At the time of the offense, the offender was driving~~ 595  
~~under suspension under Chapter 4510. or any other provision of~~ 596  
~~the Revised Code.~~ 597

(3) The court shall impose a mandatory jail term of at 598  
least seven days on an offender who is convicted of or pleads 599  
guilty to a misdemeanor violation of division ~~(A) (3)~~ (A) (3) (a) of 600  
this section and may impose upon the offender a longer jail term 601  
as authorized pursuant to section 2929.24 of the Revised Code. 602

(4) A mandatory prison term required under division (D) (1) 603  
or (2) of this section shall be a definite term from the range 604  
of prison terms provided in division (A) (2) (b) of section 605  
2929.14 of the Revised Code for a felony of the second degree, 606  
from division (A) (3) (a) of that section for a felony of the 607  
third degree, ~~or~~ from division (A) (4) of that section for a 608  
felony of the fourth degree, from division (A) (5) of that 609  
section for a felony of the fifth degree, whichever is 610  
applicable, except that if the violation is a felony of the 611  
second degree committed on or after March 22, 2019, the court 612  
shall impose as the minimum prison term for the offense a 613  
mandatory prison term that is one of the minimum terms 614  
prescribed for a felony of the second degree in division (A) (2) 615

(a) of section 2929.14 of the Revised Code. 616

(E) Divisions (A) (2) (a) and (3) of this section do not 617  
apply in a particular construction zone or active school zone 618  
unless signs of the type described in section 2903.081 of the 619  
Revised Code are erected in that construction zone or active 620  
school zone in accordance with the guidelines and design 621  
specifications established by the director of transportation 622  
under section 5501.27 of the Revised Code. The failure to erect 623  
signs of the type described in section 2903.081 of the Revised 624  
Code in a particular construction zone or active school zone in 625  
accordance with those guidelines and design specifications does 626  
not limit or affect the application of division (A) (1) or (2) (b) 627  
of this section in that construction zone or active school zone 628  
or the prosecution of any person who violates either of those 629  
divisions in that construction zone or active school zone. 630

(F) As used in this section: 631

(1) "Mandatory prison term" and "mandatory jail term" have 632  
the same meanings as in section 2929.01 of the Revised Code. 633

(2) "Traffic-related homicide, manslaughter, or assault 634  
offense" and "traffic-related murder, felonious assault, or 635  
attempted murder offense" have the same meanings as in section 636  
2903.06 of the Revised Code. 637

(3) "Construction zone" has the same meaning as in section 638  
5501.27 of the Revised Code. 639

(4) "Reckless operation offense" and "speeding offense" 640  
have the same meanings as in section 2903.06 of the Revised 641  
Code. 642

(5) "Active school zone" has the same meaning as in 643  
section 4511.01 of the Revised Code. 644

(G) For the purposes of this section, when a penalty or suspension is enhanced because of a prior or current violation of a specified law or a prior or current specified offense, the reference to the violation of the specified law or the specified offense includes any violation of any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, former law of this state, or current or former law of another state or the United States.

**Sec. 2903.081.** (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Active school zone" has the same meaning as in section 4511.01 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Construction zone" has the same meaning as in section 5501.27 of the Revised Code.

~~(2) "Reckless operation offense" and "speeding offense" have the same meanings as in section 2903.06 of the Revised Code.~~

(B) The director of transportation, board of county commissioners, or board of township trustees shall cause signs to be erected in construction zones and areas that become active school zones notifying motorists of the prohibitions set forth in sections 2903.06 and 2903.08 of the Revised Code regarding the death of or injury to any person in the construction zone ~~as a proximate result of a reckless operation offense or speeding offense in the construction zone~~ or active school zone. The prohibitions set forth in divisions (A) (2) (b), ~~and (3) (b), (3) (c), and (4) (b)~~ of section 2903.06 and divisions (A) (2) (a) and (3) of section 2903.08 of the Revised Code apply to persons who commit ~~a reckless operation the applicable offense or speeding offense~~ in a particular construction zone or active school zone only when signs of that nature are erected in that construction

zone or active school zone in accordance with the guidelines and 674  
design specifications established by the director under section 675  
5501.27 of the Revised Code. The failure to erect signs of that 676  
nature in a particular construction zone or area that becomes an 677  
active school zone in accordance with those guidelines and 678  
design specifications does not limit or affect the application 679  
of division (A) (1), (A) (2) (a), (A) (3) (a), or ~~(A) (4)~~ (A) (4) (a) of 680  
section 2903.06 or division (A) (1) or (2) (b) of section 2903.08 681  
of the Revised Code in that construction zone or active school 682  
zone or the prosecution of any person who violates ~~either any~~ of 683  
those divisions in that construction zone or active school zone. 684

**Sec. 4510.039.** (A) Any person whose driver's or commercial 685  
driver's license or permit is suspended under section 2903.06 or 686  
2903.08 of the Revised Code for an underlying offense that 687  
occurred in an active school zone, or for a violation of a 688  
substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, is not eligible to 689  
retain the license, be granted limited driving privileges, or to 690  
have the driving privileges reinstated, until both of the 691  
following have occurred: 692

(1) The person successfully completes a course of remedial 693  
driving instruction approved by the director of public safety. A 694  
minimum of twenty-five per cent of the number of hours of 695  
instruction included in the course shall be devoted to 696  
instruction on driver attitude. 697

The course also shall devote a number of hours to 698  
instruction in the area of school zone safety and operation of a 699  
motor vehicle in active school zones. The director shall 700  
prescribe the content of the instruction. 701

(2) The person gives and maintains proof of financial 702  
responsibility in accordance with section 4509.45 of the Revised 703



Code. 704

(B) Any course of remedial driving instruction the 705  
director approves under this section shall require its students 706  
to attend at least fifty per cent of the course in person. The 707  
director shall not approve any course of remedial driving 708  
instruction that permits its students to take more than fifty 709  
per cent of the course in any other manner, including via video 710  
teleconferencing or the internet. 711

**Sec. 4511.01.** As used in this chapter and in Chapter 4513. 712  
of the Revised Code: 713

(A) "Vehicle" means every device, including a motorized 714  
bicycle and an electric bicycle, in, upon, or by which any 715  
person or property may be transported or drawn upon a highway, 716  
except that "vehicle" does not include any motorized wheelchair, 717  
any electric personal assistive mobility device, any low-speed 718  
micromobility device, any personal delivery device as defined in 719  
section 4511.513 of the Revised Code, any device that is moved 720  
by power collected from overhead electric trolley wires or that 721  
is used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks, or any 722  
device, other than a bicycle, that is moved by human power. 723

(B) "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle propelled or drawn 724  
by power other than muscular power or power collected from 725  
overhead electric trolley wires, except motorized bicycles, 726  
electric bicycles, road rollers, traction engines, power 727  
shovels, power cranes, and other equipment used in construction 728  
work and not designed for or employed in general highway 729  
transportation, hole-digging machinery, well-drilling machinery, 730  
ditch-digging machinery, farm machinery, and trailers designed 731  
and used exclusively to transport a boat between a place of 732  
storage and a marina, or in and around a marina, when drawn or 733

towed on a street or highway for a distance of no more than ten 734  
miles and at a speed of twenty-five miles per hour or less. 735

(C) "Motorcycle" means every motor vehicle, other than a 736  
tractor, having a seat or saddle for the use of the operator and 737  
designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with 738  
the ground, including, but not limited to, motor vehicles known 739  
as "motor-driven cycle," "motor scooter," "autocycle," "cab- 740  
enclosed motorcycle," or "motorcycle" without regard to weight 741  
or brake horsepower. 742

(D) "Emergency vehicle" means emergency vehicles of 743  
municipal, township, or county departments or public utility 744  
corporations when identified as such as required by law, the 745  
director of public safety, or local authorities, and motor 746  
vehicles when commandeered by a police officer. 747

(E) "Public safety vehicle" means any of the following: 748

(1) Ambulances, including private ambulance companies 749  
under contract to a municipal corporation, township, or county, 750  
and private ambulances and nontransport vehicles bearing license 751  
plates issued under section 4503.49 of the Revised Code; 752

(2) Motor vehicles used by public law enforcement officers 753  
or other persons sworn to enforce the criminal and traffic laws 754  
of the state; 755

(3) Any motor vehicle when properly identified as required 756  
by the director of public safety, when used in response to fire 757  
emergency calls or to provide emergency medical service to ill 758  
or injured persons, and when operated by a duly qualified person 759  
who is a member of a volunteer rescue service or a volunteer 760  
fire department, and who is on duty pursuant to the rules or 761  
directives of that service. The state fire marshal shall be 762

designated by the director of public safety as the certifying 763  
agency for all public safety vehicles described in division (E) 764  
(3) of this section. 765

(4) Vehicles used by fire departments, including motor 766  
vehicles when used by volunteer fire fighters responding to 767  
emergency calls in the fire department service when identified 768  
as required by the director of public safety. 769

Any vehicle used to transport or provide emergency medical 770  
service to an ill or injured person, when certified as a public 771  
safety vehicle, shall be considered a public safety vehicle when 772  
transporting an ill or injured person to a hospital regardless 773  
of whether such vehicle has already passed a hospital. 774

(5) Vehicles used by the motor carrier enforcement unit 775  
for the enforcement of orders and rules of the public utilities 776  
commission as specified in section 5503.34 of the Revised Code. 777

(F) "School bus" means every bus designed for carrying 778  
more than nine passengers that is owned by a public, private, or 779  
governmental agency or institution of learning and operated for 780  
the transportation of children to or from a school session or a 781  
school function, or owned by a private person and operated for 782  
compensation for the transportation of children to or from a 783  
school session or a school function, provided "school bus" does 784  
not include a bus operated by a municipally owned transportation 785  
system, a mass transit company operating exclusively within the 786  
territorial limits of a municipal corporation, or within such 787  
limits and the territorial limits of municipal corporations 788  
immediately contiguous to such municipal corporation, nor a 789  
common passenger carrier certified by the public utilities 790  
commission unless such bus is devoted exclusively to the 791  
transportation of children to and from a school session or a 792

school function, and "school bus" does not include a van or bus 793  
used by a licensed child care center or type A family child care 794  
home to transport children from the child care center or type A 795  
family child care home to a school if the van or bus does not 796  
have more than fifteen children in the van or bus at any time. 797

(G) "Bicycle" means every device, other than a device that 798  
is designed solely for use as a play vehicle by a child, that is 799  
propelled solely by human power upon which a person may ride, 800  
and that has two or more wheels, any of which is more than 801  
fourteen inches in diameter. 802

(H) "Motorized bicycle" or "moped" means any vehicle 803  
having either two tandem wheels or one wheel in the front and 804  
two wheels in the rear, that may be pedaled, and that is 805  
equipped with a helper motor of not more than fifty cubic 806  
centimeters piston displacement that produces not more than one 807  
brake horsepower and is capable of propelling the vehicle at a 808  
speed of not greater than twenty miles per hour on a level 809  
surface. "Motorized bicycle" or "moped" does not include an 810  
electric bicycle. 811

(I) "Commercial tractor" means every motor vehicle having 812  
motive power designed or used for drawing other vehicles and not 813  
so constructed as to carry any load thereon, or designed or used 814  
for drawing other vehicles while carrying a portion of such 815  
other vehicles, or load thereon, or both. 816

(J) "Agricultural tractor" means every self-propelling 817  
vehicle designed or used for drawing other vehicles or wheeled 818  
machinery but having no provision for carrying loads 819  
independently of such other vehicles, and used principally for 820  
agricultural purposes. 821

(K) "Truck" means every motor vehicle, except trailers and 822  
semitrailers, designed and used to carry property. 823

(L) "Bus" means every motor vehicle designed for carrying 824  
more than nine passengers and used for the transportation of 825  
persons other than in a ridesharing arrangement, and every motor 826  
vehicle, automobile for hire, or funeral car, other than a 827  
taxicab or motor vehicle used in a ridesharing arrangement, 828  
designed and used for the transportation of persons for 829  
compensation. 830

(M) "Trailer" means every vehicle designed or used for 831  
carrying persons or property wholly on its own structure and for 832  
being drawn by a motor vehicle, including any such vehicle when 833  
formed by or operated as a combination of a "semitrailer" and a 834  
vehicle of the dolly type, such as that commonly known as a 835  
"trailer dolly," a vehicle used to transport agricultural 836  
produce or agricultural production materials between a local 837  
place of storage or supply and the farm when drawn or towed on a 838  
street or highway at a speed greater than twenty-five miles per 839  
hour, and a vehicle designed and used exclusively to transport a 840  
boat between a place of storage and a marina, or in and around a 841  
marina, when drawn or towed on a street or highway for a 842  
distance of more than ten miles or at a speed of more than 843  
twenty-five miles per hour. 844

(N) "Semitrailer" means every vehicle designed or used for 845  
carrying persons or property with another and separate motor 846  
vehicle so that in operation a part of its own weight or that of 847  
its load, or both, rests upon and is carried by another vehicle. 848

(O) "Pole trailer" means every trailer or semitrailer 849  
attached to the towing vehicle by means of a reach, pole, or by 850  
being boomed or otherwise secured to the towing vehicle, and 851

ordinarily used for transporting long or irregular shaped loads 852  
such as poles, pipes, or structural members capable, generally, 853  
of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting 854  
connections. 855

(P) "Railroad" means a carrier of persons or property 856  
operating upon rails placed principally on a private right-of- 857  
way. 858

(Q) "Railroad train" means a steam engine or an electric 859  
or other motor, with or without cars coupled thereto, operated 860  
by a railroad. 861

(R) "Streetcar" means a car, other than a railroad train, 862  
for transporting persons or property, operated upon rails 863  
principally within a street or highway. 864

(S) "Trackless trolley" means every car that collects its 865  
power from overhead electric trolley wires and that is not 866  
operated upon rails or tracks. 867

(T) "Explosives" means any chemical compound or mechanical 868  
mixture that is intended for the purpose of producing an 869  
explosion that contains any oxidizing and combustible units or 870  
other ingredients in such proportions, quantities, or packing 871  
that an ignition by fire, by friction, by concussion, by 872  
percussion, or by a detonator of any part of the compound or 873  
mixture may cause such a sudden generation of highly heated 874  
gases that the resultant gaseous pressures are capable of 875  
producing destructive effects on contiguous objects, or of 876  
destroying life or limb. Manufactured articles shall not be held 877  
to be explosives when the individual units contain explosives in 878  
such limited quantities, of such nature, or in such packing, 879  
that it is impossible to procure a simultaneous or a destructive 880

explosion of such units, to the injury of life, limb, or 881  
property by fire, by friction, by concussion, by percussion, or 882  
by a detonator, such as fixed ammunition for small arms, 883  
firecrackers, or safety fuse matches. 884

(U) "Flammable liquid" means any liquid that has a flash 885  
point of seventy degrees fahrenheit, or less, as determined by a 886  
tagliabue or equivalent closed cup test device. 887

(V) "Gross weight" means the weight of a vehicle plus the 888  
weight of any load thereon. 889

(W) "Person" means every natural person, firm, co- 890  
partnership, association, or corporation. 891

(X) "Pedestrian" means any natural person afoot. 892  
"Pedestrian" includes a personal delivery device as defined in 893  
section 4511.513 of the Revised Code unless the context clearly 894  
suggests otherwise. 895

(Y) "Driver or operator" means every person who drives or 896  
is in actual physical control of a vehicle, trackless trolley, 897  
or streetcar. 898

(Z) "Police officer" means every officer authorized to 899  
direct or regulate traffic, or to make arrests for violations of 900  
traffic regulations. 901

(AA) "Local authorities" means every county, municipal, 902  
and other local board or body having authority to adopt police 903  
regulations under the constitution and laws of this state. 904

(BB) "Street" or "highway" means the entire width between 905  
the boundary lines of every way open to the use of the public as 906  
a thoroughfare for purposes of vehicular travel. 907

(CC) "Controlled-access highway" means every street or 908

highway in respect to which owners or occupants of abutting 909  
lands and other persons have no legal right of access to or from 910  
the same except at such points only and in such manner as may be 911  
determined by the public authority having jurisdiction over such 912  
street or highway. 913

(DD) "Private road or driveway" means every way or place 914  
in private ownership used for vehicular travel by the owner and 915  
those having express or implied permission from the owner but 916  
not by other persons. 917

(EE) "Roadway" means that portion of a highway improved, 918  
designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, except the 919  
berm or shoulder. If a highway includes two or more separate 920  
roadways the term "roadway" means any such roadway separately 921  
but not all such roadways collectively. 922

(FF) "Sidewalk" means that portion of a street between the 923  
curb lines, or the lateral lines of a roadway, and the adjacent 924  
property lines, intended for the use of pedestrians. 925

(GG) "Laned highway" means a highway the roadway of which 926  
is divided into two or more clearly marked lanes for vehicular 927  
traffic. 928

(HH) "Through highway" means every street or highway as 929  
provided in section 4511.65 of the Revised Code. 930

(II) "State highway" means a highway under the 931  
jurisdiction of the department of transportation, outside the 932  
limits of municipal corporations, provided that the authority 933  
conferred upon the director of transportation in section 5511.01 934  
of the Revised Code to erect state highway route markers and 935  
signs directing traffic shall not be modified by sections 936  
4511.01 to 4511.79 and 4511.99 of the Revised Code. 937



(JJ) "State route" means every highway that is designated 938  
with an official state route number and so marked. 939

(KK) "Intersection" means: 940

(1) The area embraced within the prolongation or 941  
connection of the lateral curb lines, or, if none, the lateral 942  
boundary lines of the roadways of two highways that join one 943  
another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area 944  
within which vehicles traveling upon different highways that 945  
join at any other angle might come into conflict. The junction 946  
of an alley or driveway with a roadway or highway does not 947  
constitute an intersection unless the roadway or highway at the 948  
junction is controlled by a traffic control device. 949

(2) If a highway includes two roadways that are thirty 950  
feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such 951  
divided highway by an intersecting highway constitutes a 952  
separate intersection. If both intersecting highways include two 953  
roadways thirty feet or more apart, then every crossing of any 954  
two roadways of such highways constitutes a separate 955  
intersection. 956

(3) At a location controlled by a traffic control signal, 957  
regardless of the distance between the separate intersections as 958  
described in division (KK) (2) of this section: 959

(a) If a stop line, yield line, or crosswalk has not been 960  
designated on the roadway within the median between the separate 961  
intersections, the two intersections and the roadway and median 962  
constitute one intersection. 963

(b) Where a stop line, yield line, or crosswalk line is 964  
designated on the roadway on the intersection approach, the area 965  
within the crosswalk and any area beyond the designated stop 966

line or yield line constitute part of the intersection. 967

(c) Where a crosswalk is designated on a roadway on the 968  
departure from the intersection, the intersection includes the 969  
area that extends to the far side of the crosswalk. 970

(LL) "Crosswalk" means: 971

(1) That part of a roadway at intersections ordinarily 972  
included within the real or projected prolongation of property 973  
lines and curb lines or, in the absence of curbs, the edges of 974  
the traversable roadway; 975

(2) Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or 976  
elsewhere, distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines 977  
or other markings on the surface; 978

(3) Notwithstanding divisions (LL) (1) and (2) of this 979  
section, there shall not be a crosswalk where local authorities 980  
have placed signs indicating no crossing. 981

(MM) "Safety zone" means the area or space officially set 982  
apart within a roadway for the exclusive use of pedestrians and 983  
protected or marked or indicated by adequate signs as to be 984  
plainly visible at all times. 985

(NN) "Business district" means the territory fronting upon 986  
a street or highway, including the street or highway, between 987  
successive intersections within municipal corporations where 988  
fifty per cent or more of the frontage between such successive 989  
intersections is occupied by buildings in use for business, or 990  
within or outside municipal corporations where fifty per cent or 991  
more of the frontage for a distance of three hundred feet or 992  
more is occupied by buildings in use for business, and the 993  
character of such territory is indicated by official traffic 994  
control devices. 995

(OO) "Residence district" means the territory, not 996  
comprising a business district, fronting on a street or highway, 997  
including the street or highway, where, for a distance of three 998  
hundred feet or more, the frontage is improved with residences 999  
or residences and buildings in use for business. 1000

(PP) "Urban district" means the territory contiguous to 1001  
and including any street or highway which is built up with 1002  
structures devoted to business, industry, or dwelling houses 1003  
situated at intervals of less than one hundred feet for a 1004  
distance of a quarter of a mile or more, and the character of 1005  
such territory is indicated by official traffic control devices. 1006

(QQ) "Traffic control device" means a flagger, sign, 1007  
signal, marking, or other device used to regulate, warn, or 1008  
guide traffic, placed on, over, or adjacent to a street, 1009  
highway, private road open to public travel, pedestrian 1010  
facility, or shared-use path by authority of a public agency or 1011  
official having jurisdiction, or, in the case of a private road 1012  
open to public travel, by authority of the private owner or 1013  
private official having jurisdiction. 1014

(RR) "Traffic control signal" means any highway traffic 1015  
signal by which traffic is alternately directed to stop and 1016  
permitted to proceed. 1017

(SS) "Railroad sign or signal" means any sign, signal, or 1018  
device erected by authority of a public body or official or by a 1019  
railroad and intended to give notice of the presence of railroad 1020  
tracks or the approach of a railroad train. 1021

(TT) "Traffic" means pedestrians, ridden or herded 1022  
animals, vehicles, streetcars, trackless trolleys, and other 1023  
devices, either singly or together, while using for purposes of 1024

travel any highway or private road open to public travel. 1025

(UU) "Right-of-way" means either of the following, as the 1026  
context requires: 1027

(1) The right of a vehicle, streetcar, trackless trolley, 1028  
or pedestrian to proceed uninterruptedly in a lawful manner in 1029  
the direction in which it or the individual is moving in 1030  
preference to another vehicle, streetcar, trackless trolley, or 1031  
pedestrian approaching from a different direction into its or 1032  
the individual's path; 1033

(2) A general term denoting land, property, or the 1034  
interest therein, usually in the configuration of a strip, 1035  
acquired for or devoted to transportation purposes. When used in 1036  
this context, right-of-way includes the roadway, shoulders or 1037  
berm, ditch, and slopes extending to the right-of-way limits 1038  
under the control of the state or local authority. 1039

(VV) "Rural mail delivery vehicle" means every vehicle 1040  
used to deliver United States mail on a rural mail delivery 1041  
route. 1042

(WW) "Funeral escort vehicle" means any motor vehicle, 1043  
including a funeral hearse, while used to facilitate the 1044  
movement of a funeral procession. 1045

(XX) "Alley" means a street or highway intended to provide 1046  
access to the rear or side of lots or buildings in urban 1047  
districts and not intended for the purpose of through vehicular 1048  
traffic, and includes any street or highway that has been 1049  
declared an "alley" by the legislative authority of the 1050  
municipal corporation in which such street or highway is 1051  
located. 1052

(YY) "Freeway" means a divided multi-lane highway for 1053

through traffic with all crossroads separated in grade and with 1054  
full control of access. 1055

(ZZ) "Expressway" means a divided arterial highway for 1056  
through traffic with full or partial control of access with an 1057  
excess of fifty per cent of all crossroads separated in grade. 1058

(AAA) "Thruway" means a through highway whose entire 1059  
roadway is reserved for through traffic and on which roadway 1060  
parking is prohibited. 1061

(BBB) "Stop intersection" means any intersection at one or 1062  
more entrances of which stop signs are erected. 1063

(CCC) "Arterial street" means any United States or state 1064  
numbered route, controlled access highway, or other major radial 1065  
or circumferential street or highway designated by local 1066  
authorities within their respective jurisdictions as part of a 1067  
major arterial system of streets or highways. 1068

(DDD) "Ridesharing arrangement" means the transportation 1069  
of persons in a motor vehicle where such transportation is 1070  
incidental to another purpose of a volunteer driver and includes 1071  
ridesharing arrangements known as carpools, vanpools, and 1072  
buspools. 1073

(EEE) "Motorized wheelchair" means any self-propelled 1074  
vehicle designed for, and used by, a person with a disability 1075  
and that is incapable of a speed in excess of eight miles per 1076  
hour. 1077

(FFF) "Child care center" and "type A family child care 1078  
home" have the same meanings as in section 5104.01 of the 1079  
Revised Code. 1080

(GGG) "Multi-wheel agricultural tractor" means a type of 1081

agricultural tractor that has two or more wheels or tires on 1082  
each side of one axle at the rear of the tractor, is designed or 1083  
used for drawing other vehicles or wheeled machinery, has no 1084  
provision for carrying loads independently of the drawn vehicles 1085  
or machinery, and is used principally for agricultural purposes. 1086

(HHH) "Operate" means to cause or have caused movement of 1087  
a vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley. 1088

(III) "Predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense" means 1089  
any of the following: 1090

(1) A violation of section 4511.03, 4511.051, 4511.12, 1091  
4511.132, 4511.16, 4511.20, 4511.201, 4511.21, 4511.211, 1092  
4511.213, 4511.22, 4511.23, 4511.25, 4511.26, 4511.27, 4511.28, 1093  
4511.29, 4511.30, 4511.31, 4511.32, 4511.33, 4511.34, 4511.35, 1094  
4511.36, 4511.37, 4511.38, 4511.39, 4511.40, 4511.41, 4511.42, 1095  
4511.43, 4511.431, 4511.432, 4511.44, 4511.441, 4511.451, 1096  
4511.452, 4511.46, 4511.47, 4511.48, 4511.481, 4511.49, 4511.50, 1097  
4511.511, 4511.522, 4511.53, 4511.54, 4511.55, 4511.56, 4511.57, 1098  
4511.58, 4511.59, 4511.60, 4511.61, 4511.64, 4511.66, 4511.661, 1099  
4511.68, 4511.70, 4511.701, 4511.71, 4511.711, 4511.712, 1100  
4511.713, 4511.72, 4511.73, 4511.763, 4511.771, 4511.78, or 1101  
4511.84 of the Revised Code; 1102

(2) A violation of division (A)(2) of section 4511.17, 1103  
divisions (A) to (D) of section 4511.51, or division (A) of 1104  
section 4511.74 of the Revised Code; 1105

(3) A violation of any provision of sections 4511.01 to 1106  
4511.76 of the Revised Code for which no penalty otherwise is 1107  
provided in the section that contains the provision violated; 1108

(4) A violation of section 4511.214 of the Revised Code; 1109

(5) A violation of a municipal ordinance that is 1110

substantially similar to any section or provision set forth or 1111  
described in division (III) (1), (2), (3), or (4) of this 1112  
section. 1113

(JJJ) "Road service vehicle" means wreckers, utility 1114  
repair vehicles, and state, county, and municipal service 1115  
vehicles equipped with visual signals by means of flashing, 1116  
rotating, or oscillating lights. 1117

(KKK) "Beacon" means a highway traffic signal with one or 1118  
more signal sections that operate in a flashing mode. 1119

(LLL) "Hybrid beacon" means a type of beacon that is 1120  
intentionally placed in a dark mode between periods of operation 1121  
where no indications are displayed and, when in operation, 1122  
displays both steady and flashing traffic control signal 1123  
indications. 1124

(MMM) "Highway traffic signal" means a power-operated 1125  
traffic control device by which traffic is warned or directed to 1126  
take some specific action. "Highway traffic signal" does not 1127  
include a power-operated sign, steadily illuminated pavement 1128  
marker, warning light, or steady burning electric lamp. 1129

(NNN) "Median" means the area between two roadways of a 1130  
divided highway, measured from edge of traveled way to edge of 1131  
traveled way, but excluding turn lanes. The width of a median 1132  
may be different between intersections, between interchanges, 1133  
and at opposite approaches of the same intersection. 1134

(OOO) "Private road open to public travel" means a private 1135  
toll road or road, including any adjacent sidewalks that 1136  
generally run parallel to the road, within a shopping center, 1137  
airport, sports arena, or other similar business or recreation 1138  
facility that is privately owned but where the public is allowed 1139

to travel without access restrictions. "Private road open to public travel" includes a gated toll road but does not include a road within a private gated property where access is restricted at all times, a parking area, a driving aisle within a parking area, or a private grade crossing.

(PPP) "Shared-use path" means a bikeway outside the traveled way and physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier and either within the highway right-of-way or within an independent alignment. A shared-use path also may be used by pedestrians, including skaters, joggers, users of manual and motorized wheelchairs, and other authorized motorized and non-motorized users. A shared-use path does not include any trail that is intended to be used primarily for mountain biking, hiking, equestrian use, or other similar uses, or any other single track or natural surface trail that has historically been reserved for nonmotorized use.

(QQQ) "Highway maintenance vehicle" means a vehicle used in snow and ice removal or road surface maintenance, including a snow plow, traffic line striper, road sweeper, mowing machine, asphalt distributing vehicle, or other such vehicle designed for use in specific highway maintenance activities.

(RRR) "Waste collection vehicle" means a vehicle used in the collection of garbage, refuse, trash, or recyclable materials.

(SSS) "Electric bicycle" means a "class 1 electric bicycle," a "class 2 electric bicycle," or a "class 3 electric bicycle" as defined in this section.

(TTT) "Class 1 electric bicycle" means a bicycle that is equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of



less than seven hundred fifty watts that provides assistance 1169  
only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance 1170  
when the bicycle reaches the speed of twenty miles per hour. 1171

(UUU) "Class 2 electric bicycle" means a bicycle that is 1172  
equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of 1173  
less than seven hundred fifty watts that may provide assistance 1174  
regardless of whether the rider is pedaling and is not capable 1175  
of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 1176  
twenty miles per hour. 1177

(VVV) "Class 3 electric bicycle" means a bicycle that is 1178  
equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of 1179  
less than seven hundred fifty watts that provides assistance 1180  
only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance 1181  
when the bicycle reaches the speed of twenty-eight miles per 1182  
hour. 1183

(WWW) "Low-speed micromobility device" means a device 1184  
weighing less than one hundred pounds that has handlebars, is 1185  
propelled by an electric motor or human power, and has an 1186  
attainable speed on a paved level surface of not more than 1187  
twenty miles per hour when propelled by the electric motor. 1188

(XXX) "Natural resources officer" means an officer 1189  
appointed pursuant to section 1501.24 of the Revised Code. 1190

(YYY) "Wildlife officer" means an officer designated 1191  
pursuant to section 1531.13 of the Revised Code. 1192

(ZZZ) "Active school zone" means a school zone, as defined 1193  
in section 4511.21 of the Revised Code, during school recess and 1194  
while children are going to or leaving school during the opening 1195  
or closing hours, when school speed limit signs are erected, and 1196  
the twenty miles per hour speed limit is effective. 1197

**Sec. 4511.132.** (A) The driver of a vehicle, streetcar, or 1198  
trackless trolley who approaches an intersection where traffic 1199  
is controlled by traffic control signals shall do all of the 1200  
following if the signal facing the driver exhibits no colored 1201  
lights or colored lighted arrows, exhibits a combination of such 1202  
lights or arrows that fails to clearly indicate the assignment 1203  
of right-of-way, or, if the vehicle is a bicycle or an electric 1204  
bicycle, the signals are otherwise malfunctioning due to the 1205  
failure of a vehicle detector to detect the presence of the 1206  
bicycle or electric bicycle: 1207

(1) Stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, stop 1208  
before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the 1209  
intersection, or, if none, stop before entering the 1210  
intersection; 1211

(2) Yield the right-of-way to all vehicles, streetcars, or 1212  
trackless trolleys in the intersection or approaching on an 1213  
intersecting road, if the vehicles, streetcars, or trackless 1214  
trolleys will constitute an immediate hazard during the time the 1215  
driver is moving across or within the intersection or junction 1216  
of roadways; 1217

(3) Exercise ordinary care while proceeding through the 1218  
intersection. 1219

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 1220  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 1221  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 1222  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 1223  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 1224  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 1225  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 1226  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 1227

violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 1228  
degree. 1229

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 1230  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 1231  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 1232  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 1233  
Revised Code. 1234

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 1235  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 1236  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 1237  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 1238  
amount imposed for the violation. 1239

**Sec. 4511.20.** (A) No person shall operate a vehicle, 1240  
trackless trolley, or streetcar on any street or highway in 1241  
willful or wanton disregard of the safety of persons or 1242  
property. 1243

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 1244  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 1245  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 1246  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 1247  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 1248  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 1249  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 1250  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 1251  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 1252  
degree. 1253

(C) Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, 1254  
if the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 1255  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 1256

provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 1257  
amount imposed for the violation. 1258

**Sec. 4511.202.** (A) No person shall operate a motor 1259  
vehicle, trackless trolley, streetcar, agricultural tractor, or 1260  
agricultural tractor that is towing, pulling, or otherwise 1261  
drawing a unit of farm machinery on any street, highway, or 1262  
property open to the public for vehicular traffic without being 1263  
in reasonable control of the vehicle, trolley, streetcar, 1264  
agricultural tractor, or unit of farm machinery. 1265

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of operating a 1266  
motor vehicle or agricultural tractor without being in control 1267  
of it, a minor misdemeanor. 1268

(C) Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, 1269  
if the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 1270  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 1271  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 1272  
amount imposed for the violation. 1273

**Sec. 4511.204.** (A) No person shall operate a motor 1274  
vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar on any street, highway, 1275  
or property open to the public for vehicular traffic while 1276  
using, holding, or physically supporting with any part of the 1277  
person's body an electronic wireless communications device. 1278

(B) Division (A) of this section does not apply to any of 1279  
the following: 1280

(1) A person using an electronic wireless communications 1281  
device to make contact, for emergency purposes, with a law 1282  
enforcement agency, hospital or health care provider, fire 1283  
department, or other similar emergency agency or entity; 1284

(2) A person driving a public safety vehicle while using 1285

an electronic wireless communications device in the course of 1286  
the person's duties; 1287

(3) A person using an electronic wireless communications 1288  
device when the person's motor vehicle is in a stationary 1289  
position and is outside a lane of travel, at a traffic control 1290  
signal that is currently directing traffic to stop, or parked on 1291  
a road or highway due to an emergency or road closure; 1292

(4) A person using and holding an electronic wireless 1293  
communications device directly near the person's ear for the 1294  
purpose of making, receiving, or conducting a telephone call, 1295  
provided that the person does not manually enter letters, 1296  
numbers, or symbols into the device; 1297

(5) A person receiving wireless messages on an electronic 1298  
wireless communications device regarding the operation or 1299  
navigation of a motor vehicle; safety-related information, 1300  
including emergency, traffic, or weather alerts; or data used 1301  
primarily by the motor vehicle, provided that the person does 1302  
not hold or support the device with any part of the person's 1303  
body; 1304

(6) A person using the speaker phone function of the 1305  
electronic wireless communications device, provided that the 1306  
person does not hold or support the device with any part of the 1307  
person's body; 1308

(7) A person using an electronic wireless communications 1309  
device for navigation purposes, provided that the person does 1310  
not do either of the following during the use: 1311

(a) Manually enter letters, numbers, or symbols into the 1312  
device; 1313

(b) Hold or support the device with any part of the 1314

person's body. 1315

(8) A person using a feature or function of the electronic 1316  
wireless communications device with a single touch or single 1317  
swipe, provided that the person does not do either of the 1318  
following during the use: 1319

(a) Manually enter letters, numbers, or symbols into the 1320  
device; 1321

(b) Hold or support the device with any part of the 1322  
person's body. 1323

(9) A person operating a commercial truck while using a 1324  
mobile data terminal that transmits and receives data; 1325

(10) A person operating a utility service vehicle or a 1326  
vehicle for or on behalf of a utility, if the person is acting 1327  
in response to an emergency, power outage, or circumstance that 1328  
affects the health or safety of individuals; 1329

(11) A person using an electronic wireless communications 1330  
device in conjunction with a voice-operated or hands-free 1331  
feature or function of the vehicle or of the device without the 1332  
use of either hand except to activate, deactivate, or initiate 1333  
the feature or function with a single touch or swipe, provided 1334  
the person does not hold or support the device with any part of 1335  
the person's body; 1336

(12) A person using technology that physically or 1337  
electronically integrates the device into the motor vehicle, 1338  
provided that the person does not do either of the following 1339  
during the use: 1340

(a) Manually enter letters, numbers, or symbols into the 1341  
device; 1342

(b) Hold or support the device with any part of the person's body. 1343  
1344

(13) A person storing an electronic wireless communications device in a holster, harness, or article of clothing on the person's body. 1345  
1346  
1347

(C) (1) On January 31 of each year, the department of public safety shall issue a report to the general assembly that specifies the number of citations issued for violations of this section during the previous calendar year. 1348  
1349  
1350  
1351

(2) If a law enforcement officer issues an offender a ticket, citation, or summons for a violation of division (A) of this section, the officer shall do both of the following: 1352  
1353  
1354

(a) Report the issuance of the ticket, citation, or summons to the officer's law enforcement agency; 1355  
1356

(b) Ensure that such report indicates the offender's race. 1357

(D) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of operating a motor vehicle while using an electronic wireless communication device, an unclassified misdemeanor, and shall be punished as provided in divisions (D) (1) to ~~(5)~~ (6) of this section. 1358  
1359  
1360  
1361  
1362

(1) The offender shall be fined, and is subject to a suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege, as follows: 1363  
1364  
1365  
1366

(a) Except as provided in divisions (D) (1) (b), (c), (d), and (2) of this section, the court shall impose upon the offender a fine of not more than one hundred fifty dollars. 1367  
1368  
1369

(b) If, within two years of the violation, the offender 1370

has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one prior violation 1371  
of this section or a substantially equivalent municipal 1372  
ordinance, the court shall impose upon the offender a fine of 1373  
not more than two hundred fifty dollars. 1374

(c) If, within two years of the violation, the offender 1375  
has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more prior 1376  
violations of this section or a substantially equivalent 1377  
municipal ordinance, the court shall impose upon the offender a 1378  
fine of not more than five hundred dollars. The court also may 1379  
impose a suspension of the offender's driver's license, 1380  
commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, 1381  
probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege for 1382  
ninety days. 1383

(d) Notwithstanding divisions (D) (1) (a) to (c) of this 1384  
section, if the offender was operating the motor vehicle at the 1385  
time of the violation in a construction zone where a sign was 1386  
posted in accordance with section 4511.98 of the Revised Code, 1387  
the court, in addition to all other penalties provided by law, 1388  
shall impose upon the offender a fine of two times the amount 1389  
imposed for the violation under division (D) (1) (a), (b), or (c) 1390  
of this section, as applicable. 1391

(2) If the offender is in the category of offenders to 1392  
whom division (D) (1) (a) of this section applies, in lieu of 1393  
payment of the fine of one hundred fifty dollars under division 1394  
(D) (1) (a) of this section and the assessment of points under 1395  
division (D) (4) of this section, the offender instead may elect 1396  
to attend the distracted driving safety course, as described in 1397  
section 4511.991 of the Revised Code. If the offender attends 1398  
and successfully completes the course, the offender shall be 1399  
issued written evidence that the offender successfully completed 1400



the course. The offender shall not be required to pay the fine 1401  
and shall not have the points assessed against that offender's 1402  
driver's license if the offender submits the written evidence to 1403  
the court within 90 days of the violation of division (A) of 1404  
this section. However, successful completion of the course does 1405  
not result in a dismissal of the charges for the violation, and 1406  
the violation is a prior offense under divisions (D) (1) (b) and 1407  
(c) of this section if the offender commits a subsequent 1408  
violation or violations of division (A) of this section within 1409  
two years of the offense for which the course was completed. 1410  
This division does not apply with respect to any offender in the 1411  
category of offenders to whom division (D) (1) (b), (c), ~~or (d)~~, 1412  
or (5) of this section applies. 1413

(3) The court may impose any other penalty authorized 1414  
under sections 2929.21 to 2929.28 of the Revised Code. However, 1415  
the court shall not impose a fine or a suspension not otherwise 1416  
specified in division (D) (1) of this section. The court also 1417  
shall not impose a jail term or community residential sanction. 1418

(4) Except as provided in division (D) (2) of this section, 1419  
points shall be assessed for a violation of division (A) of this 1420  
section in accordance with section 4510.036 of the Revised Code. 1421

(5) Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, 1422  
if the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 1423  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 1424  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 1425  
amount imposed for the violation. 1426

(6) The offense established under this section is a strict 1427  
liability offense and section 2901.20 of the Revised Code does 1428  
not apply. The designation of this offense as a strict liability 1429  
offense shall not be construed to imply that any other offense, 1430

for which there is no specified degree of culpability, is not a 1431  
strict liability offense. 1432

(E) This section shall not be construed as invalidating, 1433  
preempting, or superseding a substantially equivalent municipal 1434  
ordinance that prescribes penalties for violations of that 1435  
ordinance that are greater than the penalties prescribed in this 1436  
section for violations of this section. 1437

(F) A prosecution for an offense in violation of this 1438  
section does not preclude a prosecution for an offense in 1439  
violation of a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance 1440  
based on the same conduct. However, the two offenses are allied 1441  
offenses of similar import under section 2941.25 of the Revised 1442  
Code. 1443

(G) (1) A law enforcement officer does not have probable 1444  
cause and shall not stop the operator of a motor vehicle for 1445  
purposes of enforcing this section unless the officer visually 1446  
observes the operator using, holding, or physically supporting 1447  
with any part of the person's body the electronic wireless 1448  
communications device. 1449

(2) A law enforcement officer who stops the operator of a 1450  
motor vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar for a violation 1451  
of division (A) of this section shall inform the operator that 1452  
the operator may decline a search of the operator's electronic 1453  
wireless communications device. The officer shall not do any of 1454  
the following: 1455

(a) Access the device without a warrant, unless the 1456  
operator voluntarily and unequivocally gives consent for the 1457  
officer to access the device; 1458

(b) Confiscate the device while awaiting the issuance of a 1459

warrant to access the device; 1460

(c) Obtain consent from the operator to access the device 1461  
through coercion or any other improper means. Any consent by the 1462  
operator to access the device shall be voluntary and unequivocal 1463  
before the officer may access the device without a warrant. 1464

(H) As used in this section: 1465

(1) "Electronic wireless communications device" includes 1466  
any of the following: 1467

(a) A wireless telephone; 1468

(b) A text-messaging device; 1469

(c) A personal digital assistant; 1470

(d) A computer, including a laptop computer and a computer 1471  
tablet; 1472

(e) Any device capable of displaying a video, movie, 1473  
broadcast television image, or visual image; 1474

(f) Any other substantially similar wireless device that 1475  
is designed or used to communicate text, initiate or receive 1476  
communication, or exchange information or data. 1477

An "electronic wireless communications device" does not 1478  
include a two-way radio transmitter or receiver used by a person 1479  
who is licensed by the federal communications commission to 1480  
participate in the amateur radio service. 1481

(2) "Voice-operated or hands-free feature or function" 1482  
means a feature or function that allows a person to use an 1483  
electronic wireless communications device without the use of 1484  
either hand, except to activate, deactivate, or initiate the 1485  
feature or function with a single touch or single swipe. 1486

(3) "Utility" means an entity specified in division (A), (C), (D), (E), or (G) of section 4905.03 of the Revised Code.

(4) "Utility service vehicle" means a vehicle owned or operated by a utility.

**Sec. 4511.205.** (A) No holder of a temporary instruction permit who has not attained the age of eighteen years and no holder of a probationary driver's license shall drive a motor vehicle on any street, highway, or property used by the public for purposes of vehicular traffic or parking while using in any manner an electronic wireless communications device.

(B) Division (A) of this section does not apply to either of the following:

(1) A person using an electronic wireless communications device for emergency purposes, including an emergency contact with a law enforcement agency, hospital or health care provider, fire department, or other similar emergency agency or entity;

(2) A person using an electronic wireless communications device whose motor vehicle is in a stationary position and the motor vehicle is outside a lane of travel;

(3) A person using a navigation device in a voice-operated or hands-free manner who does not manipulate the device while driving.

(C) (1) Except as provided in division (C) (2) of this section, whoever violates division (A) of this section shall be fined one hundred fifty dollars. In addition, the court shall impose a class seven suspension of the offender's driver's license or permit for a definite period of sixty days.

(2) If the person previously has been adjudicated a

delinquent child or a juvenile traffic offender for a violation 1515  
of this section, whoever violates this section shall be fined 1516  
three hundred dollars. In addition, the court shall impose a 1517  
class seven suspension of the person's driver's license or 1518  
permit for a definite period of one year. 1519

(3) Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, 1520  
if the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 1521  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 1522  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 1523  
amount imposed for the violation. 1524

(D) The filing of a sworn complaint against a person for a 1525  
violation of this section does not preclude the filing of a 1526  
sworn complaint for a violation of a substantially equivalent 1527  
municipal ordinance for the same conduct. However, if a person 1528  
is adjudicated a delinquent child or a juvenile traffic offender 1529  
for a violation of this section and is also adjudicated a 1530  
delinquent child or a juvenile traffic offender for a violation 1531  
of a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance for the same 1532  
conduct, the two offenses are allied offenses of similar import 1533  
under section 2941.25 of the Revised Code. 1534

(E) As used in this section, "electronic wireless 1535  
communications device" includes any of the following: 1536

- (1) A wireless telephone; 1537
- (2) A personal digital assistant; 1538
- (3) A computer, including a laptop computer and a computer 1539  
tablet; 1540
- (4) A text-messaging device; 1541
- (5) Any other substantially similar electronic wireless 1542

device that is designed or used to communicate via voice, image, 1543  
or written word. 1544

**Sec. 4511.21.** (A) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, 1545  
trackless trolley, or streetcar at a speed greater or less than 1546  
is reasonable or proper, having due regard to the traffic, 1547  
surface, and width of the street or highway and any other 1548  
conditions, and no person shall drive any motor vehicle, 1549  
trackless trolley, or streetcar in and upon any street or 1550  
highway at a greater speed than will permit the person to bring 1551  
it to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead. 1552

(B) It is prima-facie lawful, in the absence of a lower 1553  
limit declared or established pursuant to this section by the 1554  
director of transportation or local authorities, for the 1555  
operator of a motor vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar to 1556  
operate the same at a speed not exceeding the following: 1557

(1) (a) Twenty miles per hour in school zones during school 1558  
recess and while children are going to or leaving school during 1559  
the opening or closing hours, and when twenty miles per hour 1560  
school speed limit signs are erected; except that, on 1561  
controlled-access highways and expressways, if the right-of-way 1562  
line fence has been erected without pedestrian opening, the 1563  
speed shall be governed by division (B) (4) of this section and 1564  
on freeways, if the right-of-way line fence has been erected 1565  
without pedestrian opening, the speed shall be governed by 1566  
divisions (B) (10) and (11) of this section. The end of every 1567  
school zone may be marked by a sign indicating the end of the 1568  
zone. Nothing in this section or in the manual and 1569  
specifications for a uniform system of traffic control devices 1570  
shall be construed to require school zones to be indicated by 1571  
signs equipped with flashing or other lights, or giving other 1572

special notice of the hours in which the school zone speed limit 1573  
is in effect. 1574

(b) As used in this section and in section 4511.212 of the 1575  
Revised Code, "school" means all of the following: 1576

(i) Any school chartered under section 3301.16 of the 1577  
Revised Code; 1578

(ii) Any nonchartered school that during the preceding 1579  
year filed with the department of education and workforce in 1580  
compliance with rule 3301-35-08 of the Ohio Administrative Code, 1581  
a copy of the school's report for the parents of the school's 1582  
pupils certifying that the school meets Ohio minimum standards 1583  
for nonchartered, nontax-supported schools and presents evidence 1584  
of this filing to the jurisdiction from which it is requesting 1585  
the establishment of a school zone; 1586

(iii) Any special elementary school that in writing 1587  
requests the county engineer of the county in which the special 1588  
elementary school is located to create a school zone at the 1589  
location of that school. Upon receipt of such a written request, 1590  
the county engineer shall create a school zone at that location 1591  
by erecting the appropriate signs. 1592

(iv) Any preschool education program operated by an 1593  
educational service center that is located on a street or 1594  
highway with a speed limit of forty-five miles per hour or more, 1595  
when the educational service center in writing requests that the 1596  
county engineer of the county in which the program is located 1597  
create a school zone at the location of that program. Upon 1598  
receipt of such a written request, the county engineer shall 1599  
create a school zone at that location by erecting the 1600  
appropriate signs. 1601

(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 distance of three hundred feet on each approach direction;

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

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

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



(c) of this section. 1632

(d) As used in this division, "crosswalk" has the meaning 1633  
given that term in division (LL) (2) of section 4511.01 of the 1634  
Revised Code. 1635

The director may, upon request by resolution of the 1636  
legislative authority of a municipal corporation, the board of 1637  
trustees of a township, or a county board of developmental 1638  
disabilities created pursuant to Chapter 5126. of the Revised 1639  
Code, and upon submission by the municipal corporation, 1640  
township, or county board of such engineering, traffic, and 1641  
other information as the director considers necessary, designate 1642  
a school zone on any portion of a state route lying within the 1643  
municipal corporation, lying within the unincorporated territory 1644  
of the township, or lying adjacent to the property of a school 1645  
that is operated by such county board, that includes a crosswalk 1646  
customarily used by children going to or leaving a school during 1647  
recess and opening and closing hours, whenever the distance, as 1648  
measured in a straight line, from the school property line 1649  
nearest the crosswalk to the nearest point of the crosswalk is 1650  
no more than one thousand three hundred twenty feet. Such a 1651  
school zone shall include the distance encompassed by the 1652  
crosswalk and extending three hundred feet on each approach 1653  
direction of the state route. 1654

(e) As used in this section, "special elementary school" 1655  
means a school that meets all of the following criteria: 1656

(i) It is not chartered and does not receive tax revenue 1657  
from any source. 1658

(ii) It does not educate children beyond the eighth grade. 1659

(iii) It is located outside the limits of a municipal 1660

corporation. 1661

(iv) A majority of the total number of students enrolled 1662  
at the school are not related by blood. 1663

(v) The principal or other person in charge of the special 1664  
elementary school annually sends a report to the superintendent 1665  
of the school district in which the special elementary school is 1666  
located indicating the total number of students enrolled at the 1667  
school, but otherwise the principal or other person in charge 1668  
does not report any other information or data to the 1669  
superintendent. 1670

(2) Twenty-five miles per hour in all other portions of a 1671  
municipal corporation, except on state routes outside business 1672  
districts, through highways outside business districts, and 1673  
alleys; 1674

(3) Thirty-five miles per hour on all state routes or 1675  
through highways within municipal corporations outside business 1676  
districts, except as provided in divisions (B) (4) and (6) of 1677  
this section; 1678

(4) Fifty miles per hour on controlled-access highways and 1679  
expressways within municipal corporations, except as provided in 1680  
divisions (B) (12), (13), (14), (15), and (16) of this section; 1681

(5) Fifty-five miles per hour on highways outside 1682  
municipal corporations, other than highways within island 1683  
jurisdictions as provided in division (B) (8) of this section, 1684  
highways as provided in divisions (B) (9) and (10) of this 1685  
section, and highways, expressways, and freeways as provided in 1686  
divisions (B) (12), (13), (14), and (16) of this section; 1687

(6) Fifty miles per hour on state routes within municipal 1688  
corporations outside urban districts unless a lower prima-facie 1689

speed is established as further provided in this section;	1690
(7) Fifteen miles per hour on all alleys within the municipal corporation;	1691 1692
(8) Thirty-five miles per hour on highways outside municipal corporations that are within an island jurisdiction;	1693 1694
(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;	1695 1696 1697 1698
(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;	1699 1700 1701
(11) Fifty-five miles per hour on freeways with paved shoulders inside municipal corporations, other than freeways as provided in divisions (B) (14) and (16) of this section;	1702 1703 1704
(12) Sixty miles per hour on rural expressways with traffic control signals and on all portions of rural divided highways, except as provided in divisions (B) (13) and (14) of this section;	1705 1706 1707 1708
(13) Sixty-five miles per hour on all rural expressways without traffic control signals;	1709 1710
(14) Seventy miles per hour on all rural freeways;	1711
(15) Fifty-five miles per hour on all portions of freeways or expressways in congested areas as determined by the director and that are located within a municipal corporation or within an interstate freeway outerbelt, except as provided in division (B) (16) of this section;	1712 1713 1714 1715 1716

(16) Sixty-five miles per hour on all portions of freeways 1717  
or expressways without traffic control signals in urbanized 1718  
areas. 1719

(C) It is prima-facie unlawful for any person to exceed 1720  
any of the speed limitations in divisions (B) (1) (a), (2), (3), 1721  
(4), (6), (7), (8), and (9) of this section, or any declared or 1722  
established pursuant to this section by the director or local 1723  
authorities and it is unlawful for any person to exceed any of 1724  
the speed limitations in division (D) of this section. No person 1725  
shall be convicted of more than one violation of this section 1726  
for the same conduct, although violations of more than one 1727  
provision of this section may be charged in the alternative in a 1728  
single affidavit. 1729

(D) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, trackless 1730  
trolley, or streetcar upon a street or highway as follows: 1731

(1) At a speed exceeding fifty-five miles per hour, except 1732  
upon a two-lane state route as provided in division (B) (10) of 1733  
this section and upon a highway, expressway, or freeway as 1734  
provided in divisions (B) (12), (13), (14), and (16) of this 1735  
section; 1736

(2) At a speed exceeding sixty miles per hour upon a two- 1737  
lane state route as provided in division (B) (10) of this section 1738  
and upon a highway as provided in division (B) (12) of this 1739  
section; 1740

(3) At a speed exceeding sixty-five miles per hour upon an 1741  
expressway as provided in division (B) (13) or upon a freeway as 1742  
provided in division (B) (16) of this section, except upon a 1743  
freeway as provided in division (B) (14) of this section; 1744

(4) At a speed exceeding seventy miles per hour upon a 1745

freeway as provided in division (B)(14) of this section; 1746

(5) At a speed exceeding the posted speed limit upon a 1747  
highway, expressway, or freeway for which the director has 1748  
determined and declared a speed limit pursuant to division (I) 1749  
(2) or (L)(2) of this section. 1750

(E) In every charge of violation of this section the 1751  
affidavit and warrant shall specify the time, place, and speed 1752  
at which the defendant is alleged to have driven, and in charges 1753  
made in reliance upon division (C) of this section also the 1754  
speed which division (B)(1)(a), (2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), or 1755  
(9) of, or a limit declared or established pursuant to, this 1756  
section declares is prima-facie lawful at the time and place of 1757  
such alleged violation, except that in affidavits where a person 1758  
is alleged to have driven at a greater speed than will permit 1759  
the person to bring the vehicle to a stop within the assured 1760  
clear distance ahead the affidavit and warrant need not specify 1761  
the speed at which the defendant is alleged to have driven. 1762

(F) When a speed in excess of both a prima-facie 1763  
limitation and a limitation in division (D) of this section is 1764  
alleged, the defendant shall be charged in a single affidavit, 1765  
alleging a single act, with a violation indicated of both 1766  
division (B)(1)(a), (2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), or (9) of this 1767  
section, or of a limit declared or established pursuant to this 1768  
section by the director or local authorities, and of the 1769  
limitation in division (D) of this section. If the court finds a 1770  
violation of division (B)(1)(a), (2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), 1771  
or (9) of, or a limit declared or established pursuant to, this 1772  
section has occurred, it shall enter a judgment of conviction 1773  
under such division and dismiss the charge under division (D) of 1774  
this section. If it finds no violation of division (B)(1)(a), 1775

(2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), or (9) of, or a limit declared or 1776  
established pursuant to, this section, it shall then consider 1777  
whether the evidence supports a conviction under division (D) of 1778  
this section. 1779

(G) Points shall be assessed for violation of a limitation 1780  
under division (D) of this section in accordance with section 1781  
4510.036 of the Revised Code. 1782

(H) (1) Whenever the director determines upon the basis of 1783  
criteria established by an engineering study, as defined by the 1784  
director, that any speed limit set forth in divisions (B) (1) (a) 1785  
to (D) of this section is greater or less than is reasonable or 1786  
safe under the conditions found to exist at any portion of a 1787  
street or highway under the jurisdiction of the director, the 1788  
director shall determine and declare a reasonable and safe 1789  
prima-facie speed limit, which shall be effective when 1790  
appropriate signs giving notice of it are erected at the 1791  
location. 1792

(2) Whenever the director determines upon the basis of 1793  
criteria established by an engineering study, as defined by the 1794  
director, that the speed limit of fifty-five miles per hour on a 1795  
two-lane state route outside a municipal corporation is less 1796  
than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist 1797  
at that portion of the state route, the director may determine 1798  
and declare a speed limit of sixty miles per hour for that 1799  
portion of the state route, which shall be effective when 1800  
appropriate signs giving notice of it are erected at the 1801  
location. 1802

(3) (a) For purposes of the safe and orderly movement of 1803  
traffic upon any portion of a street or highway under the 1804  
jurisdiction of the director, the director may establish a 1805

variable speed limit that is different than the speed limit 1806  
established by or under this section on all or portions of 1807  
interstate six hundred seventy, interstate two hundred seventy- 1808  
five, and interstate ninety commencing at the intersection of 1809  
that interstate with interstate seventy-one and continuing to 1810  
the border of the state of Ohio with the state of Pennsylvania. 1811  
The director shall establish criteria for determining the 1812  
appropriate use of variable speed limits and shall establish 1813  
variable speed limits in accordance with the criteria. The 1814  
director may establish variable speed limits based upon the time 1815  
of day, weather conditions, traffic incidents, or other factors 1816  
that affect the safe speed on a street or highway. The director 1817  
shall not establish a variable speed limit that is based on a 1818  
particular type or class of vehicle. A variable speed limit 1819  
established by the director under this section is effective when 1820  
appropriate signs giving notice of the speed limit are displayed 1821  
at the location. 1822

(b) Except for variable speed limits established under 1823  
division (H) (3) (a) of this section, the director shall establish 1824  
a variable speed limit under the authority granted to the 1825  
director by this section on not more than two additional 1826  
highways and only pursuant to criteria established in rules 1827  
adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. The 1828  
rules shall be based on the criteria described in division (H) 1829  
(3) (a) of this section. The rules also shall establish the 1830  
parameters of any engineering study necessary for determining 1831  
when variable speed limits are appropriate. 1832

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit 1833  
the authority of the director to establish speed limits within a 1834  
construction zone as authorized under section 4511.98 of the 1835  
Revised Code. 1836

(I) (1) Except as provided in divisions (I) (2), (J), (K), 1837  
and (N) of this section, whenever local authorities determine 1838  
upon the basis of criteria established by an engineering study, 1839  
as defined by the director, that the speed permitted by 1840  
divisions (B) (1) (a) to (D) of this section, on any part of a 1841  
highway under their jurisdiction, is greater than is reasonable 1842  
and safe under the conditions found to exist at such location, 1843  
the local authorities may by resolution request the director to 1844  
determine and declare a reasonable and safe prima-facie speed 1845  
limit. Upon receipt of such request the director may determine 1846  
and declare a reasonable and safe prima-facie speed limit at 1847  
such location, and if the director does so, then such declared 1848  
speed limit shall become effective only when appropriate signs 1849  
giving notice thereof are erected at such location by the local 1850  
authorities. The director may withdraw the declaration of a 1851  
prima-facie speed limit whenever in the director's opinion the 1852  
altered prima-facie speed limit becomes unreasonable. Upon such 1853  
withdrawal, the declared prima-facie speed limit shall become 1854  
ineffective and the signs relating thereto shall be immediately 1855  
removed by the local authorities. 1856

(2) A local authority may determine on the basis of 1857  
criteria established by an engineering study, as defined by the 1858  
director, that the speed limit of sixty-five or seventy miles 1859  
per hour on a portion of a freeway under its jurisdiction is 1860  
greater than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to 1861  
exist at that portion of the freeway. If the local authority 1862  
makes such a determination, the local authority by resolution 1863  
may request the director to determine and declare a reasonable 1864  
and safe speed limit of not less than fifty-five miles per hour 1865  
for that portion of the freeway. If the director takes such 1866  
action, the declared speed limit becomes effective only when 1867



appropriate signs giving notice of it are erected at such 1868  
location by the local authority. 1869

(J) Local authorities in their respective jurisdictions 1870  
may authorize by ordinance higher prima-facie speeds than those 1871  
stated in this section upon through highways, or upon highways 1872  
or portions thereof where there are no intersections, or between 1873  
widely spaced intersections, provided signs are erected giving 1874  
notice of the authorized speed, but local authorities shall not 1875  
modify or alter the basic rule set forth in division (A) of this 1876  
section or in any event authorize by ordinance a speed in excess 1877  
of the maximum speed permitted by division (D) of this section 1878  
for the specified type of highway. 1879

Alteration of prima-facie limits on state routes by local 1880  
authorities shall not be effective until the alteration has been 1881  
approved by the director. The director may withdraw approval of 1882  
any altered prima-facie speed limits whenever in the director's 1883  
opinion any altered prima-facie speed becomes unreasonable, and 1884  
upon such withdrawal, the altered prima-facie speed shall become 1885  
ineffective and the signs relating thereto shall be immediately 1886  
removed by the local authorities. 1887

(K) (1) As used in divisions (K) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of 1888  
this section, "unimproved highway" means a highway consisting of 1889  
any of the following: 1890

(a) Unimproved earth; 1891

(b) Unimproved graded and drained earth; 1892

(c) Gravel. 1893

(2) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (K) (4) and 1894  
(5) of this section, whenever a board of township trustees 1895  
determines upon the basis of criteria established by an 1896

engineering study, as defined by the director, that the speed 1897  
permitted by division (B) (5) of this section on any part of an 1898  
unimproved highway under its jurisdiction and in the 1899  
unincorporated territory of the township is greater than is 1900  
reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist at the 1901  
location, the board may by resolution declare a reasonable and 1902  
safe prima-facie speed limit of fifty-five but not less than 1903  
twenty-five miles per hour. An altered speed limit adopted by a 1904  
board of township trustees under this division becomes effective 1905  
when appropriate traffic control devices, as prescribed in 1906  
section 4511.11 of the Revised Code, giving notice thereof are 1907  
erected at the location, which shall be no sooner than sixty 1908  
days after adoption of the resolution. 1909

(3) (a) Whenever, in the opinion of a board of township 1910  
trustees, any altered prima-facie speed limit established by the 1911  
board under this division becomes unreasonable, the board may 1912  
adopt a resolution withdrawing the altered prima-facie speed 1913  
limit. Upon the adoption of such a resolution, the altered 1914  
prima-facie speed limit becomes ineffective and the traffic 1915  
control devices relating thereto shall be immediately removed. 1916

(b) Whenever a highway ceases to be an unimproved highway 1917  
and the board has adopted an altered prima-facie speed limit 1918  
pursuant to division (K) (2) of this section, the board shall, by 1919  
resolution, withdraw the altered prima-facie speed limit as soon 1920  
as the highway ceases to be unimproved. Upon the adoption of 1921  
such a resolution, the altered prima-facie speed limit becomes 1922  
ineffective and the traffic control devices relating thereto 1923  
shall be immediately removed. 1924

(4) (a) If the boundary of two townships rests on the 1925  
centerline of an unimproved highway in unincorporated territory 1926

and both townships have jurisdiction over the highway, neither 1927  
of the boards of township trustees of such townships may declare 1928  
an altered prima-facie speed limit pursuant to division (K) (2) 1929  
of this section on the part of the highway under their joint 1930  
jurisdiction unless the boards of township trustees of both of 1931  
the townships determine, upon the basis of criteria established 1932  
by an engineering study, as defined by the director, that the 1933  
speed permitted by division (B) (5) of this section is greater 1934  
than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist 1935  
at the location and both boards agree upon a reasonable and safe 1936  
prima-facie speed limit of less than fifty-five but not less 1937  
than twenty-five miles per hour for that location. If both 1938  
boards so agree, each shall follow the procedure specified in 1939  
division (K) (2) of this section for altering the prima-facie 1940  
speed limit on the highway. Except as otherwise provided in 1941  
division (K) (4) (b) of this section, no speed limit altered 1942  
pursuant to division (K) (4) (a) of this section may be withdrawn 1943  
unless the boards of township trustees of both townships 1944  
determine that the altered prima-facie speed limit previously 1945  
adopted becomes unreasonable and each board adopts a resolution 1946  
withdrawing the altered prima-facie speed limit pursuant to the 1947  
procedure specified in division (K) (3) (a) of this section. 1948

(b) Whenever a highway described in division (K) (4) (a) of 1949  
this section ceases to be an unimproved highway and two boards 1950  
of township trustees have adopted an altered prima-facie speed 1951  
limit pursuant to division (K) (4) (a) of this section, both 1952  
boards shall, by resolution, withdraw the altered prima-facie 1953  
speed limit as soon as the highway ceases to be unimproved. Upon 1954  
the adoption of the resolution, the altered prima-facie speed 1955  
limit becomes ineffective and the traffic control devices 1956  
relating thereto shall be immediately removed. 1957

(5) As used in division (K) (5) of this section: 1958

(a) "Commercial subdivision" means any platted territory 1959  
outside the limits of a municipal corporation and fronting a 1960  
highway where, for a distance of three hundred feet or more, the 1961  
frontage is improved with buildings in use for commercial 1962  
purposes, or where the entire length of the highway is less than 1963  
three hundred feet long and the frontage is improved with 1964  
buildings in use for commercial purposes. 1965

(b) "Residential subdivision" means any platted territory 1966  
outside the limits of a municipal corporation and fronting a 1967  
highway, where, for a distance of three hundred feet or more, 1968  
the frontage is improved with residences or residences and 1969  
buildings in use for business, or where the entire length of the 1970  
highway is less than three hundred feet long and the frontage is 1971  
improved with residences or residences and buildings in use for 1972  
business. 1973

Whenever a board of township trustees finds upon the basis 1974  
of criteria established by an engineering study, as defined by 1975  
the director, that the prima-facie speed permitted by division 1976  
(B) (5) of this section on any part of a highway under its 1977  
jurisdiction that is located in a commercial or residential 1978  
subdivision, except on highways or portions thereof at the 1979  
entrances to which vehicular traffic from the majority of 1980  
intersecting highways is required to yield the right-of-way to 1981  
vehicles on such highways in obedience to stop or yield signs or 1982  
traffic control signals, is greater than is reasonable and safe 1983  
under the conditions found to exist at the location, the board 1984  
may by resolution declare a reasonable and safe prima-facie 1985  
speed limit of less than fifty-five but not less than twenty- 1986  
five miles per hour at the location. An altered speed limit 1987

adopted by a board of township trustees under this division 1988  
shall become effective when appropriate signs giving notice 1989  
thereof are erected at the location by the township. Whenever, 1990  
in the opinion of a board of township trustees, any altered 1991  
prima-facie speed limit established by it under this division 1992  
becomes unreasonable, it may adopt a resolution withdrawing the 1993  
altered prima-facie speed, and upon such withdrawal, the altered 1994  
prima-facie speed shall become ineffective, and the signs 1995  
relating thereto shall be immediately removed by the township. 1996

(L) (1) The director of transportation, based upon an 1997  
engineering study, as defined by the director, of a highway, 1998  
expressway, or freeway described in division (B) (12), (13), 1999  
(14), (15), or (16) of this section, in consultation with the 2000  
director of public safety and, if applicable, the local 2001  
authority having jurisdiction over the studied highway, 2002  
expressway, or freeway, may determine and declare that the speed 2003  
limit established on such highway, expressway, or freeway under 2004  
division (B) (12), (13), (14), (15), or (16) of this section 2005  
either is reasonable and safe or is more or less than that which 2006  
is reasonable and safe. 2007

(2) If the established speed limit for a highway, 2008  
expressway, or freeway studied pursuant to division (L) (1) of 2009  
this section is determined to be more or less than that which is 2010  
reasonable and safe, the director of transportation, in 2011  
consultation with the director of public safety and, if 2012  
applicable, the local authority having jurisdiction over the 2013  
studied highway, expressway, or freeway, shall determine and 2014  
declare a reasonable and safe speed limit for that highway, 2015  
expressway, or freeway. 2016

(M) (1) (a) If the boundary of two local authorities rests 2017

on the centerline of a highway and both authorities have 2018  
jurisdiction over the highway, the speed limit for the part of 2019  
the highway within their joint jurisdiction shall be either one 2020  
of the following as agreed to by both authorities: 2021

(i) Either prima-facie speed limit permitted by division 2022  
(B) of this section; 2023

(ii) An altered speed limit determined and posted in 2024  
accordance with this section. 2025

(b) If the local authorities are unable to reach an 2026  
agreement, the speed limit shall remain as established and 2027  
posted under this section. 2028

(2) Neither local authority may declare an altered prima- 2029  
facie speed limit pursuant to this section on the part of the 2030  
highway under their joint jurisdiction unless both of the local 2031  
authorities determine, upon the basis of criteria established by 2032  
an engineering study, as defined by the director, that the speed 2033  
permitted by this section is greater than is reasonable or safe 2034  
under the conditions found to exist at the location and both 2035  
authorities agree upon a uniform reasonable and safe prima-facie 2036  
speed limit of less than fifty-five but not less than twenty- 2037  
five miles per hour for that location. If both authorities so 2038  
agree, each shall follow the procedure specified in this section 2039  
for altering the prima-facie speed limit on the highway, and the 2040  
speed limit for the part of the highway within their joint 2041  
jurisdiction shall be uniformly altered. No altered speed limit 2042  
may be withdrawn unless both local authorities determine that 2043  
the altered prima-facie speed limit previously adopted becomes 2044  
unreasonable and each adopts a resolution withdrawing the 2045  
altered prima-facie speed limit pursuant to the procedure 2046  
specified in this section. 2047

(N) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation 2048  
or township in which a boarding school is located, by resolution 2049  
or ordinance, may establish a boarding school zone. The 2050  
legislative authority may alter the speed limit on any street or 2051  
highway within the boarding school zone and shall specify the 2052  
hours during which the altered speed limit is in effect. For 2053  
purposes of determining the boundaries of the boarding school 2054  
zone, the altered speed limit within the boarding school zone, 2055  
and the hours the altered speed limit is in effect, the 2056  
legislative authority shall consult with the administration of 2057  
the boarding school and with the county engineer or other 2058  
appropriate engineer, as applicable. A boarding school zone 2059  
speed limit becomes effective only when appropriate signs giving 2060  
notice thereof are erected at the appropriate locations. 2061

(O) As used in this section: 2062

(1) "Interstate system" has the same meaning as in 23 2063  
U.S.C. 101. 2064

(2) "Commercial bus" means a motor vehicle designed for 2065  
carrying more than nine passengers and used for the 2066  
transportation of persons for compensation. 2067

(3) "Noncommercial bus" includes but is not limited to a 2068  
school bus or a motor vehicle operated solely for the 2069  
transportation of persons associated with a charitable or 2070  
nonprofit organization. 2071

(4) "Outerbelt" means a portion of a freeway that is part 2072  
of the interstate system and is located in the outer vicinity of 2073  
a major municipal corporation or group of municipal 2074  
corporations, as designated by the director. 2075

(5) "Rural" means an area outside urbanized areas and 2076

outside of a business or urban district, and areas that extend 2077  
within urbanized areas where the roadway characteristics remain 2078  
mostly unchanged from those outside the urbanized areas. 2079

(6) "Urbanized area" has the same meaning as in 23 U.S.C. 2080  
101. 2081

(7) "Divided" means a roadway having two or more travel 2082  
lanes for vehicles moving in opposite directions and that is 2083  
separated by a median of more than four feet, excluding turn 2084  
lanes. 2085

(P) (1) A violation of any provision of this section is one 2086  
of the following: 2087

(a) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (P) (1) (b), 2088  
(1) (c), (2), and (3) of this section, a minor misdemeanor; 2089

(b) If, within one year of the offense, the offender 2090  
previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two 2091  
violations of any provision of this section or of any provision 2092  
of a municipal ordinance that is substantially similar to any 2093  
provision of this section, a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; 2094

(c) If, within one year of the offense, the offender 2095  
previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or 2096  
more violations of any provision of this section or of any 2097  
provision of a municipal ordinance that is substantially similar 2098  
to any provision of this section, a misdemeanor of the third 2099  
degree. 2100

(2) If the offender operated a motor vehicle faster than 2101  
thirty-five miles an hour in a business district of a municipal 2102  
corporation, ~~or~~ faster than fifty miles an hour in other 2103  
portions of a municipal corporation, or faster than thirty-five 2104  
miles an hour in ~~a~~ an active school zone ~~during recess or while~~ 2105



~~children are going to or leaving school during the school's~~ 2106  
~~opening or closing hours,~~ a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. 2107  
Division (P)(2) of this section does not apply if penalties may 2108  
be imposed under division (P)(1)(b) or (c) of this section. 2109

(3) Notwithstanding division (P)(1) of this section, if 2110  
the offender operated a motor vehicle in a construction zone 2111  
where a sign was then posted in accordance with section 4511.98 2112  
of the Revised Code or in an active school zone, the court, in 2113  
addition to all other penalties provided by law, shall impose 2114  
upon the offender a fine of two times the usual amount imposed 2115  
for the violation. No court shall impose a fine of two times the 2116  
usual amount imposed for the violation upon an offender if the 2117  
offender alleges, in an affidavit filed with the court prior to 2118  
the offender's sentencing, that the offender is indigent and is 2119  
unable to pay the fine imposed pursuant to this division and if 2120  
the court determines that the offender is an indigent person and 2121  
unable to pay the fine. 2122

(4) If the offender commits the offense while distracted 2123  
and the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2124  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2125  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2126  
Revised Code. 2127

**Sec. 4511.25.** (A) Upon all roadways of sufficient width, a 2128  
vehicle or trackless trolley shall be driven upon the right half 2129  
of the roadway, except as follows: 2130

(1) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding 2131  
in the same direction, or when making a left turn under the 2132  
rules governing such movements; 2133

(2) When an obstruction exists making it necessary to 2134

drive to the left of the center of the highway; provided, any 2135  
person so doing shall yield the right of way to all vehicles 2136  
traveling in the proper direction upon the unobstructed portion 2137  
of the highway within such distance as to constitute an 2138  
immediate hazard; 2139

(3) When driving upon a roadway divided into three or more 2140  
marked lanes for traffic under the rules applicable thereon; 2141

(4) When driving upon a roadway designated and posted with 2142  
signs for one-way traffic; 2143

(5) When otherwise directed by a police officer or traffic 2144  
control device. 2145

(B) (1) Upon all roadways any vehicle or trackless trolley 2146  
proceeding at less than the prevailing and lawful speed of 2147  
traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then 2148  
existing shall be driven in the right-hand lane then available 2149  
for traffic, and far enough to the right to allow passing by 2150  
faster vehicles if such passing is safe and reasonable, except 2151  
under any of the following circumstances: 2152

(a) When overtaking and passing another vehicle or 2153  
trackless trolley proceeding in the same direction; 2154

(b) When preparing for a left turn; 2155

(c) When the driver must necessarily drive in a lane other 2156  
than the right-hand lane to continue on the driver's intended 2157  
route. 2158

(2) Nothing in division (B) (1) of this section requires a 2159  
driver of a slower vehicle to compromise the driver's safety to 2160  
allow overtaking by a faster vehicle. 2161

(C) Upon any roadway having four or more lanes for moving 2162

traffic and providing for two-way movement of traffic, no 2163  
vehicle or trackless trolley shall be driven to the left of the 2164  
center line of the roadway, except when authorized by official 2165  
traffic control devices designating certain lanes to the left of 2166  
the center of the roadway for use by traffic not otherwise 2167  
permitted to use the lanes, or except as permitted under 2168  
division (A) (2) of this section. 2169

This division shall not be construed as prohibiting the 2170  
crossing of the center line in making a left turn into or from 2171  
an alley, private road, or driveway. 2172

(D) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2173  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2174  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2175  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2176  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2177  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2178  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2179  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2180  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2181  
degree. 2182

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2183  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2184  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2185  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2186  
Revised Code. 2187

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2188  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2189  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2190  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2191  
amount imposed for the violation. 2192

**Sec. 4511.251.** (A) As used in this section and section 2193  
4510.036 of the Revised Code: 2194

(1) "Street racing" means the operation of two or more 2195  
vehicles from a point side by side at accelerating speeds in a 2196  
competitive attempt to out-distance each other or the operation 2197  
of one or more vehicles over a common selected course, from the 2198  
same point to the same point, wherein timing is made of the 2199  
participating vehicles involving competitive accelerations or 2200  
speeds. The operation of two or more vehicles side by side 2201  
either at speeds in excess of prima-facie lawful speeds 2202  
established by divisions (B)(1)(a) to (B)(9) of section 4511.21 2203  
of the Revised Code or rapidly accelerating from a common 2204  
starting point to a speed in excess of such prima-facie lawful 2205  
speeds shall be prima-facie evidence of street racing. 2206

(2) "Burnout" means a maneuver performed while operating a 2207  
vehicle whereby the vehicle is kept in a stationary position, 2208  
but the wheels of the vehicle are spun, which may cause the 2209  
tires of the vehicle to become heated and emit smoke from the 2210  
friction. 2211

(3) "Doughnut" means a maneuver performed while operating 2212  
a vehicle whereby the front or rear of the vehicle is rotated 2213  
around the opposite set of wheels in a continuous motion, which 2214  
may cause a circular skid-mark pattern of rubber on the driving 2215  
surface, or the tires of the vehicle to become heated and emit 2216  
smoke from the friction, or both. 2217

(4) "Drifting" means a maneuver performed while operating 2218  
a vehicle whereby the vehicle is driven in a manner that causes 2219  
a controlled, sideways skid during a turn, with the front wheels 2220  
pointing in a direction that is the opposite of the direction of 2221  
the turn. 2222

(5) "Wheelie" means a maneuver performed while operating a 2223  
vehicle whereby the front wheel or wheels of the vehicle are 2224  
raised off of the ground or whereby two wheels that are on the 2225  
same side of the vehicle are raised off of the ground. 2226

(6) "Stunt driving" means performing or engaging in 2227  
burnouts, doughnuts, drifting, or wheelies, or allowing a 2228  
passenger to ride either partially or fully outside of the 2229  
vehicle while operating that vehicle. 2230

(7) "Street takeover" means blocking or impeding the 2231  
regular flow of vehicle or pedestrian traffic on a public road, 2232  
street, or highway or on private property that is open to the 2233  
general public for the purpose of street racing or stunt 2234  
driving. 2235

(B) No person shall knowingly participate in street 2236  
racing, stunt driving, or street takeover upon any public road, 2237  
street, or highway, or on private property that is open to the 2238  
general public. 2239

(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of street 2240  
racing, stunt driving, or street takeover, a misdemeanor of the 2241  
first degree. In addition to any other sanctions, the court 2242  
shall suspend the offender's driver's license, commercial 2243  
driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary 2244  
license, or nonresident operating privilege for not less than 2245  
thirty days or more than three years. No judge shall suspend the 2246  
first thirty days of any suspension of an offender's license, 2247  
permit, or privilege imposed under this division. 2248

(D) Persons rendering assistance in any manner to street 2249  
racing, stunt driving, or street takeover shall be equally 2250  
charged as the participants. 2251

(E) This section does not apply to the competitive 2252  
operation of vehicles on public or private property when the 2253  
political subdivision with jurisdiction of the location or owner 2254  
of the property knowingly permits such operation thereon. 2255

(F) Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, 2256  
if the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2257  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2258  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2259  
amount imposed for the violation. 2260

**Sec. 4511.26.** (A) Operators of vehicles and trackless 2261  
trolleys proceeding in opposite directions shall pass each other 2262  
to the right, and upon roadways having width for not more than 2263  
one line of traffic in each direction, each operator shall give 2264  
to the other one-half of the main traveled portion of the 2265  
roadway or as nearly one-half as is reasonable possible. 2266

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2267  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2268  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2269  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2270  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2271  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2272  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2273  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2274  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2275  
degree. 2276

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2277  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2278  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2279  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2280  
Revised Code. 2281

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2282  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2283  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2284  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2285  
amount imposed for the violation. 2286

**Sec. 4511.27.** (A) The following rules govern the 2287  
overtaking and passing of vehicles or trackless trolleys 2288  
proceeding in the same direction: 2289

(1) The operator of a vehicle or trackless trolley 2290  
overtaking another vehicle or trackless trolley proceeding in 2291  
the same direction shall, except as provided in division (A) (3) 2292  
of this section, signal to the vehicle or trackless trolley to 2293  
be overtaken, shall pass to the left thereof at a safe distance, 2294  
and shall not again drive to the right side of the roadway until 2295  
safely clear of the overtaken vehicle or trackless trolley. When 2296  
a motor vehicle or trackless trolley overtakes and passes a 2297  
bicycle or electric bicycle, three feet or greater is considered 2298  
a safe passing distance. 2299

(2) Except when overtaking and passing on the right is 2300  
permitted, the operator of an overtaken vehicle shall give way 2301  
to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle at the latter's 2302  
audible signal, and the operator shall not increase the speed of 2303  
the operator's vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking 2304  
vehicle. 2305

(3) The operator of a vehicle or trackless trolley 2306  
overtaking and passing another vehicle or trackless trolley 2307  
proceeding in the same direction on a divided highway as defined 2308  
in section 4511.35 of the Revised Code, a limited access highway 2309  
as defined in section 5511.02 of the Revised Code, or a highway 2310  
with four or more traffic lanes, is not required to signal 2311

audibly to the vehicle or trackless trolley being overtaken and 2312  
passed. 2313

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2314  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2315  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2316  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2317  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2318  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2319  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2320  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2321  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2322  
degree. 2323

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2324  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2325  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2326  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2327  
Revised Code. 2328

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2329  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2330  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2331  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2332  
amount imposed for the violation. 2333

**Sec. 4511.28.** (A) The driver of a vehicle or trackless 2334  
trolley may overtake and pass upon the right of another vehicle 2335  
or trackless trolley only under the following conditions: 2336

(1) When the vehicle or trackless trolley overtaken is 2337  
making or about to make a left turn; 2338

(2) Upon a roadway with unobstructed pavement of 2339  
sufficient width for two or more lines of vehicles moving 2340



lawfully in the direction being traveled by the overtaking 2341  
vehicle. 2342

(B) The driver of a vehicle or trackless trolley may 2343  
overtake and pass another vehicle or trackless trolley only 2344  
under conditions permitting such movement in safety. The 2345  
movement shall not be made by driving off the roadway. 2346

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2347  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2348  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2349  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2350  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2351  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2352  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2353  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2354  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2355  
degree. 2356

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2357  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2358  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2359  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2360  
Revised Code. 2361

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2362  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2363  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2364  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2365  
amount imposed for the violation. 2366

**Sec. 4511.29.** (A) No vehicle or trackless trolley shall be 2367  
driven to the left of the center of the roadway in overtaking 2368  
and passing traffic proceeding in the same direction, unless 2369

such left side is clearly visible and is free of oncoming 2370  
traffic for a sufficient distance ahead to permit such 2371  
overtaking and passing to be completely made, without 2372  
interfering with the safe operation of any traffic approaching 2373  
from the opposite direction or any traffic overtaken. In every 2374  
event the overtaking vehicle or trackless trolley must return to 2375  
an authorized lane of travel as soon as practicable and in the 2376  
event the passing movement involves the use of a lane authorized 2377  
for traffic approaching from the opposite direction, before 2378  
coming within two hundred feet of any approaching vehicle. 2379

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2380  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2381  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2382  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2383  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2384  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2385  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2386  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2387  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2388  
degree. 2389

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2390  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2391  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2392  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2393  
Revised Code. 2394

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2395  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2396  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2397  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2398  
amount imposed for the violation. 2399

Sec. 4511.30. (A) No vehicle or trackless trolley shall be 2400  
driven upon the left side of the roadway under the following 2401  
conditions: 2402

(1) When approaching the crest of a grade or upon a curve 2403  
in the highway, where the operator's view is obstructed within 2404  
such a distance as to create a hazard in the event traffic might 2405  
approach from the opposite direction; 2406

(2) When the view is obstructed upon approaching within 2407  
one hundred feet of any bridge, viaduct, or tunnel; 2408

(3) When approaching within one hundred feet of or 2409  
traversing any intersection or railroad grade crossing. 2410

(B) This section does not apply to vehicles or trackless 2411  
trolleys upon a one-way roadway, upon a roadway where traffic is 2412  
lawfully directed to be driven to the left side, or under the 2413  
conditions described in division (A) (2) of section 4511.25 of 2414  
the Revised Code. 2415

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2416  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2417  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2418  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2419  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2420  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2421  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2422  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2423  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2424  
degree. 2425

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2426  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2427  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2428

additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the Revised Code.

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if the offender commits a violation of this section in an active school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual amount imposed for the violation.

**Sec. 4511.31.** (A) The department of transportation may determine those portions of any state highway where overtaking and passing other traffic or driving to the left of the center or center line of the roadway would be especially hazardous and may, by appropriate signs or markings on the highway, indicate the beginning and end of such zones. When such signs or markings are in place and clearly visible, every operator of a vehicle or trackless trolley shall obey the directions of the signs or markings, notwithstanding the distances set out in section 4511.30 of the Revised Code.

(B) Division (A) of this section does not apply when all of the following apply:

(1) The slower vehicle is proceeding at less than half the speed of the speed limit applicable to that location.

(2) The faster vehicle is capable of overtaking and passing the slower vehicle without exceeding the speed limit.

(3) There is sufficient clear sight distance to the left of the center or center line of the roadway to meet the overtaking and passing provisions of section 4511.29 of the Revised Code, considering the speed of the slower vehicle.

(C) 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 2458  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2459  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2460  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2461  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2462  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2463  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2464  
degree. 2465

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2466  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2467  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2468  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2469  
Revised Code. 2470

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2471  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2472  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2473  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2474  
amount imposed for the violation. 2475

**Sec. 4511.32.** (A) The department of transportation may 2476  
designate any highway or any separate roadway under its 2477  
jurisdiction for one-way traffic and shall erect appropriate 2478  
signs giving notice thereof. 2479

Upon a roadway designated and posted with signs for one- 2480  
way traffic a vehicle shall be driven only in the direction 2481  
designated. 2482

A vehicle passing around a rotary traffic island shall be 2483  
driven only to the right of the rotary traffic island. 2484

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2485  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2486

within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2487  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2488  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2489  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2490  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2491  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2492  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2493  
degree. 2494

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2495  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2496  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2497  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2498  
Revised Code. 2499

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2500  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2501  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2502  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2503  
amount imposed for the violation. 2504

**Sec. 4511.33.** (A) Whenever any roadway has been divided 2505  
into two or more clearly marked lanes for traffic, or wherever 2506  
within municipal corporations traffic is lawfully moving in two 2507  
or more substantially continuous lines in the same direction, 2508  
the following rules apply: 2509

(1) A vehicle or trackless trolley shall be driven, as 2510  
nearly as is practicable, entirely within a single lane or line 2511  
of traffic and shall not be moved from such lane or line until 2512  
the driver has first ascertained that such movement can be made 2513  
with safety. 2514

(2) Upon a roadway which is divided into three lanes and 2515

provides for two-way movement of traffic, a vehicle or trackless trolley shall not be driven in the center lane except when overtaking and passing another vehicle or trackless trolley where the roadway is clearly visible and such center lane is clear of traffic within a safe distance, or when preparing for a left turn, or where such center lane is at the time allocated exclusively to traffic moving in the direction the vehicle or trackless trolley is proceeding and is posted with signs to give notice of such allocation.

(3) Official signs may be erected directing specified traffic to use a designated lane or designating those lanes to be used by traffic moving in a particular direction regardless of the center of the roadway, or restricting the use of a particular lane to only buses during certain hours or during all hours, and drivers of vehicles and trackless trolleys shall obey the directions of such signs.

(4) Official traffic control devices may be installed prohibiting the changing of lanes on sections of roadway and drivers of vehicles shall obey the directions of every such device.

(B) 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 convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2546  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2547  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2548  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2549  
Revised Code. 2550

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2551  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2552  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2553  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2554  
amount imposed for the violation. 2555

**Sec. 4511.34.** (A) The operator of a motor vehicle, 2556  
streetcar, or trackless trolley shall not follow another 2557  
vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley more closely than is 2558  
reasonable and prudent, having due regard for the speed of such 2559  
vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley, and the traffic upon 2560  
and the condition of the highway. 2561

The driver of any truck, or motor vehicle drawing another 2562  
vehicle, when traveling upon a roadway outside a business or 2563  
residence district shall maintain a sufficient space, whenever 2564  
conditions permit, between such vehicle and another vehicle 2565  
ahead so an overtaking motor vehicle may enter and occupy such 2566  
space without danger. This paragraph does not prevent overtaking 2567  
and passing nor does it apply to any lane specially designated 2568  
for use by trucks. 2569

Outside a municipal corporation, the driver of any truck, 2570  
or motor vehicle when drawing another vehicle, while ascending 2571  
to the crest of a grade beyond which the driver's view of a 2572  
roadway is obstructed, shall not follow within three hundred 2573  
feet of another truck, or motor vehicle drawing another vehicle. 2574  
This paragraph shall not apply to any lane specially designated 2575



for use by trucks. 2576

Motor vehicles being driven upon any roadway outside of a 2577  
business or residence district in a caravan or motorcade, shall 2578  
maintain a sufficient space between such vehicles so an 2579  
overtaking vehicle may enter and occupy such space without 2580  
danger. This paragraph shall not apply to funeral processions. 2581

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2582  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2583  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2584  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2585  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2586  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2587  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2588  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2589  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2590  
degree. 2591

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2592  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2593  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2594  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2595  
Revised Code. 2596

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2597  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2598  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2599  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2600  
amount imposed for the violation. 2601

**Sec. 4511.35.** (A) Whenever any highway has been divided 2602  
into two roadways by an intervening space, or by a physical 2603  
barrier, or clearly indicated dividing section so constructed as 2604

to impede vehicular traffic, every vehicle shall be driven only 2605  
upon the right-hand roadway, and no vehicle shall be driven 2606  
over, across, or within any such dividing space, barrier, or 2607  
section, except through an opening, crossover, or intersection 2608  
established by public authority. This section does not prohibit 2609  
the occupancy of such dividing space, barrier, or section for 2610  
the purpose of an emergency stop or in compliance with an order 2611  
of a police officer. 2612

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2613  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2614  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2615  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2616  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2617  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2618  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2619  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2620  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2621  
degree. 2622

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2623  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2624  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2625  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2626  
Revised Code. 2627

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2628  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2629  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2630  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2631  
amount imposed for the violation. 2632

**Sec. 4511.36.** (A) The driver of a vehicle intending to 2633  
turn at an intersection shall be governed by the following 2634

rules: 2635

(1) Approach for a right turn and a right turn shall be 2636  
made as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of 2637  
the roadway. 2638

(2) At any intersection where traffic is permitted to move 2639  
in both directions on each roadway entering the intersection, an 2640  
approach for a left turn shall be made in that portion of the 2641  
right half of the roadway nearest the center line thereof and by 2642  
passing to the right of such center line where it enters the 2643  
intersection and after entering the intersection the left turn 2644  
shall be made so as to leave the intersection to the right of 2645  
the center line of the roadway being entered. Whenever 2646  
practicable the left turn shall be made in that portion of the 2647  
intersection to the left of the center of the intersection. 2648

(3) At any intersection where traffic is restricted to one 2649  
direction on one or more of the roadways, the driver of a 2650  
vehicle intending to turn left at any such intersection shall 2651  
approach the intersection in the extreme left-hand lane lawfully 2652  
available to traffic moving in the direction of travel of such 2653  
vehicle, and after entering the intersection the left turn shall 2654  
be made so as to leave the intersection, as nearly as 2655  
practicable, in the left-hand lane of the roadway being entered 2656  
lawfully available to traffic moving in that lane. 2657

(B) The operator of a trackless trolley shall comply with 2658  
divisions (A) (1), (2), and (3) of this section wherever 2659  
practicable. 2660

(C) The department of transportation and local authorities 2661  
in their respective jurisdictions may cause markers, buttons, or 2662  
signs to be placed within or adjacent to intersections and 2663

thereby require and direct that a different course from that 2664  
specified in this section be traveled by vehicles, streetcars, 2665  
or trackless trolleys, turning at an intersection, and when 2666  
markers, buttons, or signs are so placed, no operator of a 2667  
vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley shall turn such 2668  
vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley at an intersection 2669  
other than as directed and required by such markers, buttons, or 2670  
signs. 2671

(D) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2672  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2673  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2674  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2675  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2676  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2677  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2678  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2679  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2680  
degree. 2681

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2682  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2683  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2684  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2685  
Revised Code. 2686

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2687  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2688  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2689  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2690  
amount imposed for the violation. 2691

**Sec. 4511.37.** (A) Except as provided in section 4511.13 of 2692  
the Revised Code and division (B) of this section, no vehicle 2693

shall be turned so as to proceed in the opposite direction upon 2694  
any curve, or upon the approach to or near the crest of a grade, 2695  
if the vehicle cannot be seen within five hundred feet by the 2696  
driver of any other vehicle approaching from either direction. 2697

(B) The driver of an emergency vehicle or public safety 2698  
vehicle, when responding to an emergency call, may turn the 2699  
vehicle so as to proceed in the opposite direction. This 2700  
division applies only when the emergency vehicle or public 2701  
safety vehicle is responding to an emergency call, is equipped 2702  
with and displaying at least one flashing, rotating, or 2703  
oscillating light visible under normal atmospheric conditions 2704  
from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of the 2705  
vehicle, and when the driver of the vehicle is giving an audible 2706  
signal by siren, exhaust whistle, or bell. This division does 2707  
not relieve the driver of an emergency vehicle or public safety 2708  
vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of 2709  
all persons and property upon the highway. 2710

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2711  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2712  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2713  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2714  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2715  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2716  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2717  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2718  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2719  
degree. 2720

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2721  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2722  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2723

additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the Revised Code.

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if the offender commits a violation of this section in an active school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual amount imposed for the violation.

**Sec. 4511.38.** (A) No person shall start a vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley which is stopped, standing, or parked until such movement can be made with reasonable safety.

Before backing, operators of vehicle, streetcars, or trackless trolleys shall give ample warning, and while backing they shall exercise vigilance not to injure person or property on the street or highway.

No person shall back a motor vehicle on a freeway, except: in a rest area; in the performance of public works or official duties; as a result of an emergency caused by an accident or breakdown of a motor vehicle.

(B) 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 convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and

the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2753  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2754  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2755  
Revised Code. 2756

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2757  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2758  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2759  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2760  
amount imposed for the violation. 2761

**Sec. 4511.39.** (A) No person shall turn a vehicle or 2762  
trackless trolley or move right or left upon a highway unless 2763  
and until such person has exercised due care to ascertain that 2764  
the movement can be made with reasonable safety nor without 2765  
giving an appropriate signal in the manner hereinafter provided. 2766

When required, a signal of intention to turn or move right 2767  
or left shall be given continuously during not less than the 2768  
last one hundred feet traveled by the vehicle or trackless 2769  
trolley before turning, except that in the case of a person 2770  
operating a bicycle or electric bicycle, the signal shall be 2771  
made not less than one time but is not required to be 2772  
continuous. A bicycle or electric bicycle operator is not 2773  
required to make a signal if the bicycle or electric bicycle is 2774  
in a designated turn lane, and a signal shall not be given when 2775  
the operator's hands are needed for the safe operation of the 2776  
bicycle or electric bicycle. 2777

No person shall stop or suddenly decrease the speed of a 2778  
vehicle or trackless trolley without first giving an appropriate 2779  
signal in the manner provided herein to the driver of any 2780  
vehicle or trackless trolley immediately to the rear when there 2781  
is opportunity to give a signal. 2782

Any stop or turn signal required by this section shall be 2783  
given either by means of the hand and arm, or by signal lights 2784  
that clearly indicate to both approaching and following traffic 2785  
intention to turn or move right or left, except that any motor 2786  
vehicle in use on a highway shall be equipped with, and the 2787  
required signal shall be given by, signal lights when the 2788  
distance from the center of the top of the steering post to the 2789  
left outside limit of the body, cab, or load of such motor 2790  
vehicle exceeds twenty-four inches, or when the distance from 2791  
the center of the top of the steering post to the rear limit of 2792  
the body or load thereof exceeds fourteen feet, whether a single 2793  
vehicle or a combination of vehicles. 2794

The signal lights required by this section shall not be 2795  
flashed on one side only on a disabled vehicle or trackless 2796  
trolley, flashed as a courtesy or "do pass" signal to operators 2797  
of other vehicles or trackless trolleys approaching from the 2798  
rear, nor be flashed on one side only of a parked vehicle or 2799  
trackless trolley except as may be necessary for compliance with 2800  
this section. 2801

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2802  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2803  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2804  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2805  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2806  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2807  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2808  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2809  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2810  
degree. 2811

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2812



the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2813  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2814  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2815  
Revised Code. 2816

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2817  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2818  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2819  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2820  
amount imposed for the violation. 2821

**Sec. 4511.41.** (A) When two vehicles, including any 2822  
trackless trolley or streetcar, approach or enter an 2823  
intersection from different streets or highways at approximately 2824  
the same time, the driver of the vehicle on the left shall yield 2825  
the right-of-way to the vehicle on the right. 2826

(B) The right-of-way rule declared in division (A) of this 2827  
section is modified at through highways and otherwise as stated 2828  
in Chapter 4511. of the Revised Code. 2829

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2830  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2831  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2832  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2833  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2834  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2835  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2836  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2837  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2838  
degree. 2839

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2840  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2841

commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2842  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2843  
Revised Code. 2844

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2845  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2846  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2847  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2848  
amount imposed for the violation. 2849

**Sec. 4511.42.** (A) The operator of a vehicle, streetcar, or 2850  
trackless trolley intending to turn to the left within an 2851  
intersection or into an alley, private road, or driveway shall 2852  
yield the right of way to any vehicle, streetcar, or trackless 2853  
trolley approaching from the opposite direction, whenever the 2854  
approaching vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley is within 2855  
the intersection or so close to the intersection, alley, private 2856  
road, or driveway as to constitute an immediate hazard. 2857

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2858  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2859  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2860  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2861  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2862  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2863  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2864  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2865  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2866  
degree. 2867

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2868  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2869  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2870  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2871

Revised Code. 2872

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2873  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2874  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2875  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2876  
amount imposed for the violation. 2877

**Sec. 4511.43.** (A) Except when directed to proceed by a law 2878  
enforcement officer, every driver of a vehicle or trackless 2879  
trolley approaching a stop sign shall stop at a clearly marked 2880  
stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the 2881  
near side of the intersection, or, if none, then at the point 2882  
nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of 2883  
approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering 2884  
it. After having stopped, the driver shall yield the right-of- 2885  
way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another 2886  
roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during 2887  
the time the driver is moving across or within the intersection 2888  
or junction of roadways. 2889

(B) The driver of a vehicle or trackless trolley 2890  
approaching a yield sign shall slow down to a speed reasonable 2891  
for the existing conditions and, if required for safety to stop, 2892  
shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before 2893  
entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, 2894  
if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway 2895  
where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the 2896  
intersecting roadway before entering it. After slowing or 2897  
stopping, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle 2898  
or trackless trolley in the intersection or approaching on 2899  
another roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard 2900  
during the time the driver is moving across or within the 2901

intersection or junction of roadways. Whenever a driver is 2902  
involved in a collision with a vehicle or trackless trolley in 2903  
the intersection or junction of roadways, after driving past a 2904  
yield sign without stopping, the collision shall be prima-facie 2905  
evidence of the driver's failure to yield the right-of-way. 2906

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2907  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2908  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2909  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2910  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2911  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2912  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2913  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2914  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2915  
degree. 2916

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2917  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2918  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2919  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2920  
Revised Code. 2921

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2922  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2923  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2924  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2925  
amount imposed for the violation. 2926

**Sec. 4511.431.** (A) The driver of a vehicle or trackless 2927  
trolley emerging from an alley, building, private road, or 2928  
driveway within a business or residence district shall stop the 2929  
vehicle or trackless trolley immediately prior to driving onto a 2930  
sidewalk or onto the sidewalk area extending across the alley, 2931

building entrance, road, or driveway, or in the event there is 2932  
no sidewalk area, shall stop at the point nearest the street to 2933  
be entered where the driver has a view of approaching traffic 2934  
thereon. 2935

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2936  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2937  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2938  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2939  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2940  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2941  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2942  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2943  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2944  
degree. 2945

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2946  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2947  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2948  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2949  
Revised Code. 2950

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2951  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2952  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2953  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2954  
amount imposed for the violation. 2955

**Sec. 4511.44.** (A) The operator of a vehicle, streetcar, or 2956  
trackless trolley about to enter or cross a highway from any 2957  
place other than another roadway shall yield the right of way to 2958  
all traffic approaching on the roadway to be entered or crossed. 2959

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2960

violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2961  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2962  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2963  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2964  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2965  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2966  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2967  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2968  
degree. 2969

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2970  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2971  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2972  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2973  
Revised Code. 2974

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2975  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2976  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2977  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 2978  
amount imposed for the violation. 2979

**Sec. 4511.441.** (A) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the 2980  
right-of-way to any pedestrian on a sidewalk. 2981

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 2982  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 2983  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 2984  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 2985  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 2986  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 2987  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 2988  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 2989  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 2990

degree. 2991

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 2992  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 2993  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 2994  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 2995  
Revised Code. 2996

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 2997  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 2998  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 2999  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 3000  
amount imposed for the violation. 3001

**Sec. 4511.46.** (A) When traffic control signals are not in 3002  
place, not in operation, or are not clearly assigning the right- 3003  
of-way, the driver of a vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar 3004  
shall yield the right of way, slowing down or stopping if need 3005  
be to so yield or if required by section 4511.132 of the Revised 3006  
Code, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk 3007  
when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which 3008  
the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching 3009  
so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in 3010  
danger. 3011

(B) No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other 3012  
place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle, 3013  
trackless trolley, or streetcar which is so close as to 3014  
constitute an immediate hazard. 3015

(C) Division (A) of this section does not apply under the 3016  
conditions stated in division (B) of section 4511.48 of the 3017  
Revised Code. 3018

(D) Whenever any vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar 3019

is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at 3020  
an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the 3021  
driver of any other vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar 3022  
approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass the 3023  
stopped vehicle. 3024

(E) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 3025  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 3026  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 3027  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 3028  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 3029  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 3030  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 3031  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 3032  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 3033  
degree. 3034

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 3035  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 3036  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 3037  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 3038  
Revised Code. 3039

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 3040  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 3041  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 3042  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 3043  
amount imposed for the violation. 3044

**Sec. 4511.54.** (A) No person riding upon any bicycle, 3045  
electric bicycle, coaster, roller skates, sled, skateboard, or 3046  
toy vehicle shall attach the same or self to any streetcar, 3047  
trackless trolley, or vehicle upon a roadway. 3048



No operator shall knowingly permit any person riding upon 3049  
any bicycle, electric bicycle, coaster, roller skates, sled, 3050  
skateboard, or toy vehicle to attach the same or self to any 3051  
streetcar, trackless trolley, or vehicle while it is moving upon 3052  
a roadway. 3053

This section does not apply to the towing of a disabled 3054  
vehicle. 3055

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 3056  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 3057  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 3058  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 3059  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 3060  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 3061  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 3062  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 3063  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 3064  
degree. 3065

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 3066  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 3067  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 3068  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 3069  
Revised Code. 3070

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 3071  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 3072  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 3073  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 3074  
amount imposed for the violation. 3075

**Sec. 4511.60.** (A) No vehicle shall at any time be driven 3076  
through or within a safety zone. 3077

(B) 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  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third  
degree.

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the  
Revised Code.

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual  
amount imposed for the violation.

**Sec. 4511.711.** (A) No person shall drive any vehicle,  
other than a bicycle or an electric bicycle if the motor is not  
engaged, upon a sidewalk or sidewalk area except upon a  
permanent or duly authorized temporary driveway.

This prohibition does not apply to a law enforcement  
officer, or other person sworn to enforce the criminal and  
traffic laws of the state, using an electric bicycle with the  
motor engaged while in the performance of the officer's duties.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting

local authorities from regulating the operation of bicycles or 3107  
electric bicycles within their respective jurisdictions, except 3108  
that no local authority may require that bicycles or electric 3109  
bicycles be operated on sidewalks. 3110

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 3111  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 3112  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 3113  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 3114  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 3115  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 3116  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 3117  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 3118  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 3119  
degree. 3120

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 3121  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 3122  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 3123  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 3124  
Revised Code. 3125

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 3126  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 3127  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 3128  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 3129  
amount imposed for the violation. 3130

**Sec. 4511.712.** (A) No driver shall enter an intersection 3131  
or marked crosswalk or drive onto any railroad grade crossing 3132  
unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the 3133  
intersection, crosswalk, or grade crossing to accommodate the 3134  
vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley the driver is operating 3135  
without obstructing the passage of other vehicles, streetcars, 3136

trackless trolleys, pedestrians, or railroad trains, 3137  
notwithstanding any traffic control signal indication to 3138  
proceed. 3139

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 3140  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 3141  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 3142  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 3143  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 3144  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 3145  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 3146  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 3147  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 3148  
degree. 3149

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 3150  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 3151  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 3152  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 3153  
Revised Code. 3154

Notwithstanding section 2929.28 of the Revised Code, if 3155  
the offender commits a violation of this section in an active 3156  
school zone, the court, in addition to all other penalties 3157  
provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual 3158  
amount imposed for the violation. 3159

**Sec. 5501.27.** (A) The director of transportation shall 3160  
adopt rules that do the following: 3161

(1) Rules governing the posting of signs advising 3162  
motorists that increased penalties apply for certain traffic 3163  
violations occurring on streets or highways in a construction 3164  
zone or an active school zone; 3165

(2) Rules governing the posting of signs to be used 3166  
pursuant to section 2903.081 of the Revised Code giving notice 3167  
to motorists of the prohibitions set forth in sections 2903.06 3168  
and 2903.08 of the Revised Code regarding the death of or injury 3169  
to any person in a construction zone ~~as a proximate result of a~~ 3170  
~~reckless operation offense or speeding offense~~ or an active 3171  
school zone. 3172

~~(B)~~ (B) (1) The rules required under divisions (A) (1) and 3173  
(2) of this section shall include guidelines to determine which 3174  
areas are appropriate to the posting of such signs. 3175

(2) The guidelines for signage in a construction zone may 3176  
include consideration of the following: the duration of the work 3177  
on the street or highway, the proximity of workers to moving 3178  
traffic, the existence of any unusual or hazardous conditions, 3179  
the volume of traffic on the street or highway, and any other 3180  
appropriate factors. 3181

(3) The guidelines for signage in areas that become an 3182  
active school zone may include consideration of the following: 3183  
the number of students who typically walk to the school rather 3184  
than arrive on buses or through motor vehicles, the existence of 3185  
any unusual or hazardous conditions, the speed limit of the 3186  
highways adjacent to the school when the school zone speed limit 3187  
is not in effect, the volume of traffic on the street or 3188  
highway, and any other appropriate factors. 3189

(C) The director shall formulate design specifications for 3190  
the signs described in division (A) (1) of this section advising 3191  
motorists of the increased penalties and the signs described in 3192  
division (A) (2) of this section notifying motorists of the 3193  
prohibitions set forth in sections 2903.06 and 2903.08 of the 3194  
Revised Code regarding the death of or injury to any person in a 3195

construction zone ~~as a proximate result of a reckless operation~~ 3196  
~~offense or speeding offense as described in that division~~ 3197  
or an active school zone. For purposes of traffic violation penalties, 3198  
nothing in this section is intended to conflict with any 3199  
standard set forth in the federal manual of uniform traffic 3200  
control devices for streets and highways. 3201

~~(C)~~ (D) As used in this section and in section 4511.98 of 3202  
the Revised Code, ~~"construction~~ 3203

(1) "Construction zone" means that lane or portion of 3204  
street or highway open to vehicular traffic and adjacent to a 3205  
lane, berm, or shoulder of a street or highway within which 3206  
lane, berm, or shoulder construction, reconstruction, 3207  
resurfacing, or any other work of a repair or maintenance 3208  
nature, including public utility work, is being conducted, 3209  
commencing with the point where the first worker or piece of 3210  
equipment is located and ending where the last worker or piece 3211  
of equipment is located. 3212

(2) "Active school zone" has the same meaning as in 3213  
section 4511.01 of the Revised Code. 3214

**Section 2.** That existing sections 2903.06, 2903.08, 3215  
2903.081, 4511.01, 4511.132, 4511.20, 4511.202, 4511.204, 3216  
4511.205, 4511.21, 4511.25, 4511.251, 4511.26, 4511.27, 4511.28, 3217  
4511.29, 4511.30, 4511.31, 4511.32, 4511.33, 4511.34, 4511.35, 3218  
4511.36, 4511.37, 4511.38, 4511.39, 4511.41, 4511.42, 4511.43, 3219  
4511.431, 4511.44, 4511.441, 4511.46, 4511.54, 4511.60, 3220  
4511.711, 4511.712, and 5501.27 of the Revised Code are hereby 3221  
repealed. 3222

**Section 3.** This act shall be known as Aspen Runnels' Law. 3223

**Section 4.** The General Assembly, applying the principle 3224

stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that 3225  
amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of 3226  
simultaneous operation, finds that the following sections, 3227  
presented in this act as composites of the sections as amended 3228  
by the acts indicated, are the resulting versions of the 3229  
sections in effect prior to the effective date of the sections 3230  
as presented in this act: 3231

Section 4511.132 of the Revised Code is presented in this 3232  
act as a composite of the section as amended by H.B. 9, H.B. 26, 3233  
H.B. 95, and H.B. 250, all of the 132nd General Assembly. 3234

Section 4511.27 of the Revised Code is presented in this 3235  
act as a composite of the section as amended by both H.B. 95 and 3236  
H.B. 250 of the 132nd General Assembly. 3237

Section 4511.39 of the Revised Code is presented in this 3238  
act as a composite of the section as amended by both H.B. 95 and 3239  
H.B. 250 of the 132nd General Assembly. 3240