

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: S3/20/19 S3/28/19

2 92nd General Assembly

# A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2019

HOUSE BILL 1631

4

5 By: Representative Vaught

6 By: Senators B. Davis, Flippo, T. Garner

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## For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING MAXIMUM SPEED  
LIMITS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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13

## Subtitle

14

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING MAXIMUM SPEED  
LIMITS.

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

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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 27-51-201(b) and (c), concerning speed  
21 limits, are amended to read as follows:

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~~(b)(1)(A) Upon an engineering and traffic investigation, the State  
Highway Commission may increase the speed limit of a controlled access  
highway to~~ The maximum speed limit for a motor vehicle operated on a  
controlled-access highway is seventy-five miles per hour (75 m.p.h.) if the  
controlled-access highway:

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(i) Is located outside an urban area; and  
(ii) Has at least four (4) lanes that are divided by a  
median strip.

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(B) The maximum speed limit for a commercial motor vehicle  
operated on a controlled-access highway described in subdivision (b)(1) of  
this section is seventy miles per hour (70 m.p.h.).

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The Arkansas Department of Transportation shall erect the  
appropriate signs giving notice of the maximum speed limit provided in  
subdivision (b)(1) of this section along the controlled-access highway  
~~maximum permissible speeds on controlled access highways shall be effective~~



1 ~~when appropriate signs giving notice are erected along the highway by the~~  
2 ~~Arkansas Department of Transportation.~~

3 (3) Upon an engineering and traffic investigation, the State  
4 Highway Commission may decrease the maximum speed limit on a controlled-  
5 access highway from the speed limit provided by subdivision (b)(1) of this  
6 section.

7 (c) On all facilities other than controlled-access highways under  
8 subdivision (b)(1) of this section, except when a special hazard exists that  
9 requires lower speed for compliance with subsection (a) of this section, the  
10 limits specified in this section or established as authorized shall be  
11 maximum lawful speeds, and a person shall not drive a vehicle on a highway at  
12 a speed in excess of:

13 (1) Thirty miles per hour (30 m.p.h.) in any urban district;

14 (2) Fifty miles per hour (50 m.p.h.) for trucks of one-and-one-  
15 half-ton capacity or more in other locations;

16 (3) Sixty-five miles per hour (65 m.p.h.) on a controlled-access  
17 highway in an urban area ~~for other motor vehicles in other locations~~; and

18 (4) A motor vehicle which is over width, over length, or over  
19 height or the gross load of which is in excess of sixty-four thousand pounds  
20 (64,000 lbs), excluding the front axle, even if operated under a special  
21 permit, shall not be operated in excess of thirty miles per hour (30 m.p.h.).  
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23 *SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-51-201, concerning speed limits, is*  
24 *amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:*

25 (h) As used in this section, "commercial motor vehicle" means any  
26 motor vehicle used in commerce to transport passengers or property when the  
27 vehicle or vehicle combination has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross  
28 combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination  
29 weight of twenty-six thousand one pounds (26,001 lbs.) or more.  
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31 *SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act shall be effective on and after*  
32 *July 1, 2020.*

33  
34 /s/Vaught

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36 **APPROVED: 4/8/19**