

1 SB24  
2 147709-1  
3 By Senators Dial and Orr  
4 RFD: Commerce, Transportation, and Utilities  
5 First Read: 14-JAN-14  
6 PFD: 10/04/2013

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a law enforcement  
9 officer of an incorporated municipality with less  
10 than 19,000 inhabitants is prohibited from  
11 enforcing any speed limit set by general law on any  
12 interstate highway.

13 Existing law provides that any law  
14 enforcement officer of a municipality can enforce  
15 any speed limit set by general law inside the  
16 corporate limits of the municipality but cannot  
17 enforce the speed limit within the police  
18 jurisdiction of the municipality.

19 This bill would repeal both of these  
20 provisions.

21  
22 A BILL  
23 TO BE ENTITLED  
24 AN ACT  
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1           To amend Section 32-5A-171, Code of Alabama 1975,  
2 relating to maximum speed limits; to repeal the provision  
3 relating to the enforcement of speed limits on interstate  
4 highways by certain municipal law enforcement officers; and to  
5 repeal the provision prohibiting municipal law enforcement  
6 officers from enforcing speed limits on interstate highways  
7 within the police jurisdiction of the municipality.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

9           Section 1. Section 32-5A-171, Code of Alabama 1975,  
10 is amended to read as follows:

11           "§32-5A-171.

12           "Except when a special hazard exists that requires  
13 lower speed for compliance with Section 32-5A-170, the limits  
14 hereinafter specified or established as hereinafter authorized  
15 shall be maximum lawful speeds, and no person shall drive a  
16 vehicle at a speed in excess of the maximum limits.

17           "(1) No person shall operate a vehicle in excess of  
18 30 miles per hour in any urban district.

19           "(2)a. No person shall operate a motor vehicle in  
20 excess of 35 miles per hour on any unpaved road. For purposes  
21 of this chapter the term unpaved road shall mean any highway  
22 under the jurisdiction of any county, the surface of which  
23 consists of natural earth, mixed soil, stabilized soil,  
24 aggregate, crushed sea shells, or similar materials without  
25 the use of asphalt, cement, or similar binders.

1            "b. No person shall operate a motor vehicle on any  
2 county-maintained paved road in an unincorporated area of the  
3 state at a speed in excess of 45 miles per hour unless a  
4 different maximum speed is established under authority granted  
5 in subdivision (6) or as provided in subdivision (7) subject  
6 to the maximum rate of speed provided in subdivision (3).

7            "(3) No person shall operate a motor vehicle on the  
8 highways in this state, other than interstate highways or  
9 highways having four or more traffic lanes, at a speed in  
10 excess of 55 miles per hour at any time unless a different  
11 maximum rate of speed is authorized by the Governor under  
12 authority granted in subdivision (6) or as provided in  
13 subdivision (7).

14            "(4) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, on an  
15 interstate highway within the State of Alabama, at a speed in  
16 excess of 70 miles per hour or on any other highway having  
17 four or more traffic lanes at a speed in excess of 65 miles  
18 per hour, unless a different maximum rate of speed is  
19 authorized by the Governor under authority granted in  
20 subdivision (6) or as provided in subdivision (7).  
21 Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, any  
22 portion of Corridor X/I-22 which is open between the  
23 Alabama/Mississippi state line and the Jefferson County line  
24 shall be considered an interstate highway for the purpose of  
25 the maximum speed limit on the highway.

1           "(5) Notwithstanding any provisions of this section  
2 to the contrary, no person shall operate a passenger vehicle,  
3 motor truck, or passenger bus which carries or transports  
4 explosives or flammable liquids, as defined in Section  
5 32-1-1.1, or hazardous wastes, as defined in Section  
6 22-30-3(5), in this state unless the vehicle, truck, or bus  
7 prominently displays a current decal, plate, or placard which  
8 is required by the rules or regulations of the DOT or the PSC  
9 which indicates or warns that the vehicle, truck, or bus is  
10 carrying or transporting the substances. No person shall  
11 operate the vehicle, truck, or bus at a rate of speed greater  
12 than 55 miles per hour at any time unless a different maximum  
13 rate of speed is authorized by the Governor under authority  
14 granted in subdivision (6) or as provided in subdivision (7).

15           "(6) The Governor may prescribe the maximum rate of  
16 speed whenever a different rate of speed is required by  
17 federal law in order for Alabama to receive federal funds for  
18 highway maintenance and construction.

19           "(7) The maximum speed limits set forth in this  
20 section may be altered as authorized in Sections 32-5A-172 and  
21 32-5A-173.

22           "~~(8) A law enforcement officer or a peace officer of~~  
23 ~~any incorporated municipality or town which has less than~~  
24 ~~19,000 inhabitants according to the most recent federal~~  
25 ~~decennial census shall not enforce this section on any~~  
26 ~~interstate highway.~~

1                   "~~(9) Any speed limit set pursuant to this section~~  
2 ~~shall be enforced by any municipality or any law enforcement~~  
3 ~~officer of a municipality only within the corporate limits of~~  
4 ~~the municipality and not within the police jurisdiction of the~~  
5 ~~municipality.~~"

6                   Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
7 first day of the third month following its passage and  
8 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.