

State of Arkansas  
92nd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2019

As Engrossed: S3/20/19 S3/28/19  
**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 1631

By: Representative Vaught  
By: Senators B. Davis, Flippo, T. Garner

### For An Act To Be Entitled

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

### Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING MAXIMUM SPEED  
LIMITS.

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

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

~~(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:

(i) Is located outside an urban area; and

(ii) Has at least four (4) lanes that are divided by a median strip.

(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.).

(2) 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~~



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

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

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

- (1) Thirty miles per hour (30 m.p.h.) in any urban district;
- (2) Fifty miles per hour (50 m.p.h.) for trucks of one-and-one-half-ton capacity or more in other locations;
- (3) Sixty-five miles per hour (65 m.p.h.) on a controlled-access highway in an urban area ~~for other motor vehicles in other locations~~; and
- (4) A motor vehicle which is over width, over length, or over height or the gross load of which is in excess of sixty-four thousand pounds (64,000 lbs), excluding the front axle, even if operated under a special permit, *shall not be operated in excess of thirty miles per hour (30 m.p.h.).*

*SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-51-201, concerning speed limits, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:*

*(h) As used in this section, "commercial motor vehicle" means any motor vehicle used in commerce to transport passengers or property when the vehicle or vehicle combination has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight of twenty-six thousand one pounds (26,001 lbs.) or more.*

*SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act shall be effective on and after July 1, 2020.*

/s/Vaught

**APPROVED: 4/8/19**