



S.B. 94

125th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sens. Wachtmann, Robert Gardner, Prentiss

BILL SUMMARY

- Increases from 55 miles per hour to 65 miles per hour the speed limit applicable to motor vehicles weighing more than 8,000 pounds when empty and to noncommercial buses on certain freeways and certain multi-lane highways on which other motor vehicles can be legally operated at 65 miles per hour.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Under current law, some freeways have a speed limit of 55 miles per hour for all vehicles while other freeways and certain rural, divided, multi-lane highways have two speed limits: a speed limit of 55 miles per hour for motor vehicles weighing in excess of 8,000 pounds empty weight and noncommercial buses, and a speed limit of 65 miles per hour for motor vehicles weighing less than 8,000 pounds empty weight and commercial buses.

Under the bill, in the case of those freeways and other multi-lane divided highways that currently have a speed limit of 55 miles per hour for large motor vehicles and noncommercial buses and a speed limit of 65 miles per hour for other motor vehicles, the speed limit of 65 miles per hour applies to all motor vehicles, regardless of weight, including both commercial and noncommercial buses. Specifically, the bill removes all of the following from the speed limit law: all references to "motor vehicles weighing 8,000 pounds or less empty weight," "motor vehicles weighing in excess of 8,000 pounds empty weight," "commercial bus," and "noncommercial bus"; the definitions of the last two terms; and the provision of current law that specifically prohibits the operation on specified freeways of a motor vehicle weighing in excess of 8,000 pounds empty weight or a noncommercial bus at a speed in excess of 55 miles per hour. (Proposed sec. 4511.21(B)(10) and (11), (D)(2), and (N).)

The bill does not affect those freeways and other multi-lane divided highways that currently have a speed limit of 55 miles per hour for all motor vehicles.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	05-21-03	p. 369

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