



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Amanda Kramer

S.B. 71

130th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sen. Tavares

BILL SUMMARY

- Subjects a person who speeds in a school zone, during school recess or while children are going to or leaving school during opening and closing hours, to a fine of two times the usual amount imposed for a speed limit violation.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Under the bill, a person who speeds in a school zone, during school recess or while children are going to or leaving school during opening and closing hours, is subject to a fine of two times the usual amount imposed for a speed limit violation. However, no court may impose this increased fine if: (1) the offender alleges, in an affidavit filed with the court prior to the offender's sentencing, that the offender is indigent and unable to pay the fine, and (2) the court determines the offender is an indigent person and unable to pay the fine.¹

Under continuing law, the speed limit in a school zone is 20 miles per hour during school recess, while children are going to or leaving school during opening and closing hours, and when 20 mile per hour school speed limit signs are erected. "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, including a state highway. However, these boundaries may be extended by the Director of Transportation upon the request of certain local authorities.²

¹ R.C. 4511.21(P)(4).

² R.C. 4511.21(B)(1)(a) and (c).

A state speed limit violation generally constitutes the following: (1) a minor misdemeanor on a first or second offense, which carries a fine of up to \$150, (2) a fourth degree misdemeanor on the third offense within one year, which carries a fine of up to \$250 and up to 30 days in jail, (3) a third degree misdemeanor on the fourth or subsequent offense within one year, which carries a fine of up to \$500 and up to 60 days in jail, or (4) a fourth degree misdemeanor on the first offense if operating a vehicle faster than 35 miles per hour in a school zone when the school zone speed limit is in effect, which carries a fine of up to \$250 and up to 30 days in jail.³

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-12-13

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³ R.C. 2929.24(A) (not in bill), 2929.28(A)(2) (not in bill), and 4511.21(P).

