

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE BILL

No. 213 Session of  
1995

INTRODUCED BY WOZNIAK, GEIST, PESCI, TRELLO, STEELMAN,  
VAN HORNE, ROONEY, PRESTON, L. I. COHEN, CLARK, BIRMELIN,  
ROBERTS, TULLI, FLEAGLE, LEH, CARONE, BROWN, HERSHEY,  
HUTCHINSON, DALEY, SURRA, WAUGH, McCALL, FARMER, TRAVAGLIO,  
LAUGHLIN, RAYMOND, SHEEHAN, HALUSKA, CIVERA, FLICK,  
STRITTMATTER, GODSHALL, YOUNGBLOOD, MERRY, BOSCOLA AND  
SCHRODER, JANUARY 24, 1995

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
FEBRUARY 14, 1995

## AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, providing for a speed limit of 65 miles per hour on  
3 rural interstate highways AND CERTAIN OTHER HIGHWAYS; AND  
4 REQUIRING A STUDY. <—

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 102 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a definition to read:

9 § 102. Definitions.

10 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent  
11 provisions of this title which are applicable to specific  
12 provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when  
13 used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly  
14 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

15 \* \* \*

16 "Interstate highway." A freeway on the Dwight D. Eisenhower

1 System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

2 \* \* \*

3 Section 2. Sections 3362 and 6110(a) of Title 75 are amended  
4 to read:

5 § 3362. Maximum speed limits.

6 (a) General rule.--Except when a special hazard exists that  
7 requires lower speed for compliance with section 3361 (relating  
8 to driving vehicle at safe speed), the limits specified in this  
9 [subsection] section or established under this subchapter shall  
10 be maximum lawful speeds and no person shall drive a vehicle at  
11 a speed in excess of the following maximum limits:

12 (1) 35 miles per hour in any urban district.

13 (1.1) 65 miles per hour for ~~passenger cars, motorcycles~~ <—

14 and ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT trucks having a registered gross <—

15 weight of ~~not~~ more than 9,000 pounds: <—

16 (i) on interstate highways outside of urbanized  
17 areas of population of 50,000 or more; and

18 (ii) on other freeways where the department has  
19 posted a 65-mile-per-hour speed limit in accordance with  
20 the provisions of 23 U.S.C. (relating to highways).

21 (2) 55 miles per hour in other locations.

22 (3) Any other maximum speed limit established under this  
23 subchapter.

24 ~~(b) Posting of speed limit. No maximum speed limit~~ <—

25 ~~established under subsection (a)(1), (1.1) or (3) shall be~~

26 (B) POSTING OF SPEED LIMIT.-- <—

27 (1) NO MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION

28 (A)(1) OR (3) SHALL BE effective unless posted on fixed or  
29 variable official traffic-control devices erected in

30 accordance with regulations adopted by the department which

1 regulations shall require posting at the beginning and end of  
2 each speed zone and at intervals not greater than one-half  
3 mile.

4 (2) NO MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION <—  
5 (A)(1.1) SHALL BE EFFECTIVE UNLESS POSTED ON FIXED OR  
6 VARIABLE OFFICIAL TRAFFIC-CONTROL DEVICES ERECTED AFTER EACH  
7 INTERCHANGE ON THE PORTION OF HIGHWAY ON WHICH THE SPEED  
8 LIMIT IS IN EFFECT AND WHEREVER ELSE THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
9 DETERMINE.

10 (c) Penalty.--Any person violating this section is guilty of  
11 a summary offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to  
12 pay a fine of \$35. Any person exceeding the maximum speed limit  
13 by more than five miles per hour shall pay an additional fine of  
14 \$2 per mile for each mile in excess of five miles per hour over  
15 the maximum speed limit.

16 § 6110. Regulation of traffic on Pennsylvania Turnpike.

17 (a) General rule.--The provisions of this title apply upon  
18 any turnpike or highway under the supervision and control of the  
19 Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission unless specifically modified by  
20 rules and regulations promulgated by the commission which shall  
21 become effective only upon publication in accordance with law. A  
22 copy of the rules and regulations, so long as they are  
23 effective, shall be posted at all entrances to the turnpike or  
24 highway for the inspection of persons using the turnpike or  
25 highway. This section does not authorize the establishment of a  
26 maximum speed limit greater than 55 miles per hour[.], except

27 for passenger cars, motorcycles and trucks with a registered <—  
28 gross weight of 9,000 pounds or less on interstate highways  
29 outside of an urbanized area with a population of 50,000 or  
30 more. THAT A 65-MILES-PER-HOUR MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT SHALL BE <—

1 ESTABLISHED FOR ALL VEHICLES, EXCEPT TRUCKS WITH A REGISTERED  
2 GROSS WEIGHT OF MORE THAN 9,000 POUNDS:

3 (1) ON INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS OUTSIDE OF URBANIZED AREAS OF  
4 POPULATION OF 50,000 OR MORE; AND

5 (2) ON OTHER FREEWAYS WHERE THE COMMISSION HAS POSTED A  
6 65-MILES-PER-HOUR SPEED LIMIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
7 PROVISIONS OF 23 UNITED STATES CODE (RELATING TO HIGHWAYS).

8 (A.1) POSTING.--NO MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ESTABLISHED UNDER  
9 SUBSECTION (A)(1) OR (2) SHALL BE EFFECTIVE UNLESS POSTED ON  
10 FIXED OR VARIABLE OFFICIAL TRAFFIC-CONTROL DEVICES ERECTED AFTER  
11 EACH INTERCHANGE ON THE PORTION OF HIGHWAY ON WHICH THE SPEED  
12 LIMIT IS IN EFFECT AND WHEREVER ELSE THE COMMISSION SHALL  
13 DETERMINE.

14 \* \* \*

15 SECTION 3. THE DESIGNATION OF A SPEED LIMIT IN EXCESS OF 55 <—  
16 MILES PER HOUR AUTHORIZED UPON ANY INTERSTATE HIGHWAY OR  
17 TURNPIKE SHALL REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE  
18 PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE COMMISSION TO ISSUE A SAFETY REPORT TO THE  
19 TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE TRANSPORTATION  
20 COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE EFFECT OF SUCH  
21 INCREASED SPEED LIMIT TO BE SUBMITTED AT A REASONABLE TIME AFTER  
22 THE INCREASED SPEED LIMIT HAS BEEN IN EFFECT FOR AT LEAST ONE  
23 YEAR.

24 Section ~~3~~ 4. This act shall take effect in 90 days. <—