

SENATE BILL NO. 18—SENATOR WASHINGTON

PREFILED DECEMBER 5, 2008

Referred to Committee on Energy, Infrastructure and Transportation

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing speed limits in school zones and school crossing zones. (BDR 43-384)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to traffic laws; revising provisions governing speed limits in school zones and school crossing zones; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 With limited exceptions, existing law provides for a speed limit of 15 miles per
2 hour in a school zone and a speed limit of 25 miles per hour in a school crossing
3 zone, and authorizes certain local school and law enforcement personnel to
4 determine the times when such school zone and school crossing zone speed limits
5 are to be in effect. (NRS 484.1485, 484.149, 484.366) This bill revises provisions
6 defining a school zone and defining when children are present for the purposes of
7 school zones and school crossing zones.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 484.149 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 484.149 "School zone" means those sections of streets which
3 are adjacent to school property ~~H~~ *and to which access by a person*
4 *on such school property is not prevented by a physical barrier,*
5 *including, without limitation, a block wall or chain-link fence.*
6 **Sec. 2.** NRS 484.366 is hereby amended to read as follows:
7 484.366 1. A person shall not drive a motor vehicle at a
8 speed in excess of 15 miles per hour in an area designated as a
9 school zone except:
10 (a) On a day on which school is not in session;



(b) During the period from a half hour after school is no longer in operation to a half hour before school is next in operation;

(c) If the **school** zone is designated by an operational speed limit beacon, during the hours when the pupils of the school are in class and the yellow lights of the speed limit beacon are not flashing in the manner which indicates that the speed limit is in effect; or

(d) If the **school** zone is not designated by an operational speed limit beacon, during the times when the sign designating the school zone indicates that the speed limit is not in effect.

2. A person shall not drive a motor vehicle at a speed in excess of 25 miles per hour in an area designated as a school crossing zone , except:

(a) On a day on which school is not in session;

(b) During the period from a half hour after school is no longer in operation to a half hour before school is next in operation;

(c) If the **school crossing** zone is designated by an operational speed limit beacon, during the hours when the pupils of the school are in class and the yellow lights of the speed limit beacon are not flashing in the manner which indicates that the speed limit is in effect; or

(d) If the **school crossing** zone is not designated by an operational speed limit beacon, during the times when the sign designating the school **crossing** zone indicates that the speed limit is not in effect.

3. The governing body of a local government or the Department of Transportation shall designate school zones and school crossing zones. An area must not be designated as a school zone if imposing a speed limit of 15 miles per hour would be unsafe because of higher speed limits in adjoining areas.

4. Each such governing body and the Department of **Transportation** shall provide signs to mark the beginning and end of each school zone and school crossing zone which it respectively designates. Each sign marking the beginning of such a zone must include a designation of the hours when the speed limit is in effect ~~or~~ **and, where applicable**, that the speed limit is in effect when children are present.

5. With respect to each school zone and school crossing zone in a school district, the superintendent of the school district or his designee, in conjunction with the Department of Transportation and the governing body of the local government that designated the school zone or school crossing zone , and after consulting with the principal of the **applicable** school and the agency that is responsible for enforcing the speed limit in the **school zone or school crossing zone**, shall determine the times when the speed limit **in the school zone or school crossing zone** is in effect.



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6. As used in this section ~~[, “speed limit beacon” means a device which is used in conjunction with a sign and equipped with two or more yellow lights that flash alternately to indicate when the speed limit in a school zone or school crossing zone is in effect.] :~~

(a) “Children” means persons who are less than 18 years of age.

(b) “Children are present” means one or more children occupying a crosswalk or road where a school zone or school crossing zone is designated, or occupying school property or a pathway, sidewalk or shoulder that provides unimpeded access to the adjacent road where a school zone or school crossing zone is designated.

(c) “Operational speed limit beacon” means a device which is used in conjunction with a sign and equipped with two or more yellow lights that flash alternately to indicate when the speed limit is in effect in a school zone or school crossing zone.

(d) “School” means any public school or private school but does not include a university.

Sec. 3. (Deleted by amendment.)

