

SENATE BILL NO. 392

February 25, 1999, Introduced by Senator BENNETT and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Tourism.

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "Michigan vehicle code," by amending section 627a (MCL 257.627a), as amended by 1996 PA 574.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 627a. (1) As used in this section and section 629:
2 (a) "Regularly scheduled school session" means that part of
3 a day of student instruction ~~which~~ THAT is followed by a break
4 for lunch or by a final dismissal of the student body for that
5 day.
6 (b) "School" means an educational institution operated by a
7 local school district or by a private, denominational, or paro-
8 chial organization. ~~, except an educational institution~~
9 ~~containing only grades above eighth grade.~~ School ~~shall~~ DOES
10 not include an educational institution ~~which~~ THAT the

1 department of education determines either has its entire student
2 population in residence at the institution or has its entire stu-
3 dent population transported to and from the institution by motor
4 vehicles.

5 (c) "School zone" means school property on which a school
6 building is located and the area adjacent to the school property
7 ~~which~~ THAT is designated by the signs required under subsection
8 (2). Except as otherwise provided in subsection (5), the school
9 zone ~~shall extend~~ EXTENDS not more than 1,000 feet from the
10 property line of the school in each direction.

11 (2) Except as provided in subsection (4), the prima facie
12 speed limit in a school zone, which shall be in force 30 minutes
13 before the first regularly scheduled school session until school
14 commences and from dismissal until 30 minutes after the last reg-
15 ularly scheduled school session, and during a lunch period when
16 students are permitted to leave the school, shall be 25 miles an
17 hour, if permanent signs designating the school zone and the
18 speed limit in the school zone are posted at the request of the
19 school superintendent. The signs shall conform to the Michigan
20 manual of uniform traffic control devices.

21 (3) This section ~~shall~~ DOES not apply to a limited access
22 highway or to that portion of a street or highway over which a
23 pedestrian overhead walkway is erected, if the walkway is adja-
24 cent to school property and is designed and located so as to be
25 used, and is being used, as the principal means by which students
26 of a school ~~which~~ THAT has property adjacent to the walkway
27 travel to and from the school.

1 (4) Local authorities may increase or decrease the prima
2 facie speed limit within a school zone under their jurisdiction
3 pursuant to section 629.

4 (5) Notwithstanding the requirements for a school zone as
5 defined in subsection (1)(c), if a school is located in an area
6 that requires school children to cross a state trunk line highway
7 or county highway that has a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or
8 more to attend that school, the school superintendent may submit
9 a request to the state transportation commission, county road
10 commission, or local authority having jurisdiction over the road-
11 way, as applicable, for a school crossing as permitted under
12 section 613a. If, based on the traffic engineering studies, the
13 road authority determines the need for a lower speed limit, the
14 road authority may designate the crossing as a school zone.
15 Before submitting a request, the school superintendent shall have
16 completed a school route plan as prescribed by section ~~7a-1~~
17 7A-1 of the Michigan manual of uniform traffic control devices.

18 (6) Notwithstanding the 25-mile-per-hour prima facie speed
19 limit established by subsection (2), the prima facie speed limit
20 for any street in a school zone ~~which~~ THAT has sidewalks along
21 at least 1 side of the street, which shall be in force during the
22 same periods ~~which~~ THAT a 25-mile-per-hour speed limit provided
23 by subsection (2) would otherwise be effective, shall be set at
24 the limit requested by the superintendent of schools with juris-
25 diction over the school within the school zone, but this limit
26 shall neither be more than 15 miles per hour below the regularly
27 posted speed limit for that street nor less than 25 miles per

1 hour. Permanent signs designating the school zone and the speed
2 limit in the school zone shall be posted. These signs shall con-
3 form to the Michigan manual of uniform traffic control devices.