

# SENATE BILL No. 267

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 9-21.

**Synopsis:** Traffic laws. Raises from 65 miles per hour to 70 miles per hour the speed limit for a motor vehicle weighing 26,000 pounds or less operated on an interstate highway located outside an urban area. Makes it a Class C infraction for a vehicle operated at less than the posted speed limit to be driven continuously in the left lane of a laned roadway if it impedes the flow of other traffic. Requires a person who drives a vehicle in the left lane that impedes the flow of traffic to move the vehicle to the right lane when the movement can be made with safety. Makes it a Class C infraction to operate a truck while a person less than 18 years of age is in the open bed of the truck. Makes exceptions for parades, certain farm operations, and certain trucks equipped with seat belts.

**Effective:** July 1, 1999.

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January 7, 1999, read first time and referred to Committee on Corrections, Criminal and Civil Procedures.

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First Regular Session 111th General Assembly (1999)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 1998 General Assembly.

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## SENATE BILL No. 267



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning motor vehicles.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 9-21-5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
2 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 2. Except when a special hazard  
3 exists that requires lower speed for compliance with section 1 of this  
4 chapter, the slower speed limit specified in this section or established  
5 as authorized by section 3 of this chapter is the maximum lawful speed.  
6 A person may not drive a vehicle on a highway at a speed in excess of  
7 the following maximum limits:  
8 (1) Thirty (30) miles per hour in an urban district.  
9 (2) Fifty-five (55) miles per hour, except as provided in  
10 subdivisions (1), (3), and (4).  
11 (3) ~~Sixty-five (65)~~ **Seventy (70)** miles per hour on a highway on  
12 the national system of interstate and defense highways located  
13 outside of an urbanized area (as defined in 23 U.S.C. 101) with a  
14 population of at least fifty thousand (50,000), except as provided  
15 in subdivision (4).  
16 (4) Sixty (60) miles per hour for a vehicle (other than a bus)  
17 having a declared gross weight greater than twenty-six thousand



1 (26,000) pounds on a highway on the national system of interstate  
 2 and defense highways located outside an urbanized area (as  
 3 defined in 23 U.S.C. 101) with a population of at least fifty  
 4 thousand (50,000).

5 (5) Fifteen (15) miles per hour in an alley.

6 SECTION 2. IC 9-21-8-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 7 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 11. Whenever a  
 8 roadway has been divided into three (3) or more clearly marked lanes  
 9 for traffic, the following rules apply:

10 (1) A vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practicable entirely  
 11 within a single lane and may not be moved from the lane until the  
 12 person who drives the vehicle has first ascertained that the  
 13 movement can be made with safety.

14 (2) Upon a roadway that is divided into three (3) lanes, a vehicle  
 15 may not be driven in the center lane except under any of the  
 16 following conditions:

17 (A) When overtaking and passing another vehicle where the  
 18 roadway is clearly visible and the center lane is clear of traffic  
 19 within a safe distance.

20 (B) In preparation for a left turn.

21 (C) Where the center lane is at the time allocated exclusively  
 22 to traffic moving in the direction the vehicle is proceeding and  
 23 is signposted to give notice of the allocation.

24 (3) Official signs may be erected directing slow-moving traffic to  
 25 use a designated lane or allocating specified lanes to traffic  
 26 moving in the same direction. A person who drives a vehicle shall  
 27 obey the directions of each sign.

28 **(4) A vehicle operating at less than the posted speed limit may**  
 29 **not be driven continuously in the left lane of a roadway that**  
 30 **has more than one (1) lane designated or allocated to traffic**  
 31 **moving in the same direction if the vehicle impedes the flow**  
 32 **of other traffic. A person who drives a vehicle in the left lane**  
 33 **of a roadway described in this subdivision that impedes the**  
 34 **flow of traffic must move the vehicle to the right lane when**  
 35 **the movement can be made with safety.**

36 SECTION 3. IC 9-21-8-54 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
 37 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 38 1, 1999]: Sec. 54. (a) An individual may not operate a truck on a  
 39 public highway while another individual who is less than eighteen  
 40 (18) years of age is in the open bed of the truck.

41 (b) Subsection (a) does not apply to an individual operating a  
 42 truck:



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- 1           **(1) in a parade;**
- 2           **(2) in connection with an agricultural activity; or**
- 3           **(3) in which all persons less than eighteen (18) years of age**
- 4           **who are in the open bed of the truck are:**
- 5                 **(A) in attached seats; and**
- 6                 **(B) secured by seat belts.**

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