

HOUSE BILL No. 4607

April 13, 2005, Introduced by Rep. Stakoe and referred to the Committee on Local Government and Urban Policy.

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled
"Michigan vehicle code,"
by amending section 627a (MCL 257.627a), as amended by 2000 PA 110.

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 a
3 day of student instruction that is followed by a break for lunch or
4 by a final dismissal of the student body for that day.

5 (b) "School" means an educational institution operated by a
6 local school district or by a private, denominational, or parochial
7 organization. School does not include an educational institution
8 that the department of education determines has its entire student
9 population in residence at the institution.

10 (c) "School zone" means school property on which a school

1 building is located and the area adjacent to the school property
2 that is designated by the signs required under subsection (2).
3 Except as otherwise provided in subsection (5), the school zone
4 extends not more than 1,000 feet from the property line of the
5 school in each direction.

6 (2) Except as provided in subsection (4), the prima facie
7 speed limit in a school zone, which shall be in force not less than
8 30 minutes but not more than 1 hour before the first regularly
9 scheduled school session until school commences and from dismissal
10 until not less than 30 minutes but not more than 1 hour after the
11 last regularly scheduled school session, and during a lunch period
12 when students are permitted to leave the school, shall be 25 miles
13 an hour, if permanent signs designating the school zone and the
14 speed limit in the school zone are posted at the request of the
15 school superintendent. The signs shall conform to the Michigan
16 manual of uniform traffic control devices.

17 (3) This section does not apply to a limited access highway or
18 to that portion of a street or highway over which a pedestrian
19 overhead walkway is erected, if the walkway is adjacent to school
20 property and is designed and located so as to be used, and is being
21 used, as the principal means by which students of a school that has
22 property adjacent to the walkway travel to and from the school.

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

26 (5) Notwithstanding the requirements for a school zone as
27 defined in subsection (1)(c), if a school is located in an area

1 that requires school children to cross a state trunk line highway
2 or county highway that has a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or
3 more to attend that school, the school superintendent may submit a
4 request to the state transportation commission, county road
5 commission, or local authority having jurisdiction over the
6 roadway, as applicable, for a school crossing as permitted under
7 section 613a. If, based on the traffic engineering studies, the
8 road authority determines the need for a lower speed limit, the
9 road authority may designate the crossing as a school zone. Before
10 submitting a request, the school superintendent shall have
11 completed a school route plan as prescribed by section 7A-1 of the
12 Michigan manual of uniform traffic control devices.

13 (6) Notwithstanding the 25-mile-per-hour prima facie speed
14 limit established by subsection (2), the prima facie speed limit
15 for any street in a school zone that has sidewalks along at least 1
16 side of the street, which shall be in force during the same periods
17 that a 25-mile-per-hour speed limit provided by subsection (2)
18 would otherwise be effective, shall be set at the limit requested
19 by the superintendent of schools with jurisdiction over the school
20 within the school zone, but this limit shall neither be more than
21 15 miles per hour below the regularly posted speed limit for that
22 street nor less than 25 miles per hour. Permanent signs designating
23 the school zone and the speed limit in the school zone shall be
24 posted. These signs shall conform to the Michigan manual of uniform
25 traffic control devices.

26 (7) IF APPROPRIATE, THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT MAY REQUEST THAT
27 A SIGN BE ERECTED IN THE SCHOOL ZONE INDICATING THAT A SCHOOL IS IN

1 SESSION YEAR-ROUND. A SIGN ERECTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE
2 POSTED IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE SCHOOL ZONE SIGN OR SPEED LIMIT
3 SIGN WITHIN THE SCHOOL ZONE, OR BOTH.