

1 HB212
2 197356-1
3 By Representatives Pettus, Faulkner, Rowe, Reynolds, Kiel,
4 Lovvorn, Ledbetter, Lee and Robertson
5 RFD: Transportation, Utilities and Infrastructure
6 First Read: 19-MAR-19

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the rules of the road
9 specify that vehicles traveling at less than the
10 normal speed of traffic are to travel in the
11 right-hand lane or as close to the right-hand curb
12 or edge of the roadway as practicable. Under
13 existing law, a violation of any of the rules of
14 the road is a misdemeanor unless otherwise
15 specified.

16 This bill would prohibit a vehicle traveling
17 on the interstate highway from remaining in the
18 leftmost lane for more than 1.5 miles without
19 completely passing another vehicle, with
20 exceptions.

21 Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama
22 of 1901 prohibits a general law whose purpose or
23 effect would be to require a new or increased
24 expenditure of local funds from becoming effective
25 with regard to a local governmental entity without
26 enactment by a 2/3 vote unless: it comes within one
27 of a number of specified exceptions; it is approved

1 by the affected entity; or the Legislature
2 appropriates funds, or provides a local source of
3 revenue, to the entity for the purpose.

4 The purpose or effect of this bill would be
5 to require a new or increased expenditure of local
6 funds within the meaning of Amendment 621. However,
7 the bill does not require approval of a local
8 governmental entity or enactment by a 2/3 vote to
9 become effective because it comes within one of the
10 specified exceptions contained in Amendment 621.

11
12 A BILL
13 TO BE ENTITLED
14 AN ACT

15
16 Relating to motor vehicles and traffic; to amend
17 Section 32-5A-80 of Code of Alabama 1975, to require a vehicle
18 traveling on an interstate highway to travel in the right lane
19 unless passing another vehicle; to provide exceptions; and in
20 connection therewith would have as its purpose or effect the
21 requirement of a new or increased expenditure of local funds
22 within the meaning of Amendment 621 of the Constitution of
23 Alabama of 1901..

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

25 Section 1. This act shall be known as the Anti-Road
26 Rage Act.

1 Section 2. Section 32-5A-80 of the Code of Alabama
2 1975, is amended to read as follows:

3 "§32-5A-80.

4 "(a) Upon all roadways of sufficient width, a
5 vehicle shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway,
6 except ~~as follows~~ under any of the following conditions:

7 "(1) When overtaking and passing another vehicle
8 proceeding in the same direction under the rules governing
9 such movement, ~~and~~.

10 "(2) When an obstruction exists making it necessary
11 to drive to the left of the center of the highway; provided,
12 any person doing so shall yield the right-of-way to all
13 vehicles traveling in the proper direction upon the
14 unobstructed portion of the highway within such distance as to
15 constitute an immediate hazard, ~~and~~.

16 "(3) Upon a roadway divided into three marked lanes
17 for traffic under the rules applicable thereon, ~~and~~.

18 "(4) Upon a roadway restricted to one-way traffic.

19 "(b) Upon all roadways, a
20 less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place
21 and under the conditions then existing shall be driven in the
22 right-hand lane then available for traffic, or as close as
23 practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway,
24 except when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding
25 in the same direction or when preparing for a left turn at an
26 intersection or into a private road or driveway.

1 "(c) Upon any roadway having four or more lanes for
2 moving traffic and providing for two-way movement of traffic,
3 no vehicle shall be driven to the left of the center line of
4 the roadway, except when authorized by official
5 traffic-control devices designating certain lanes to the left
6 side of the center of the roadway for use by traffic not
7 otherwise permitted to use such lanes, or except as permitted
8 under subsection (a) (2). However, this subsection shall not be
9 construed as prohibiting the crossing of the center line in
10 making a left turn into or from an alley, private road, or
11 driveway.

12 "(d) (1) Upon any interstate highway, except as
13 provided in subdivision (2), a vehicle may not remain in the
14 leftmost lane for more than 1.5 miles without completely
15 passing another vehicle.

16 "(2) A vehicle may travel in the leftmost lane under
17 any of the following conditions:

18 "a. When traffic conditions or congestion make it
19 necessary to operate a vehicle in the leftmost lane.

20 "b. When inclement weather, obstructions, or hazards
21 make it necessary to operate a vehicle in the leftmost lane.

22 "c. When compliance with a law, rule, ordinance, or
23 traffic control device makes it necessary to operate a vehicle
24 in the leftmost lane.

25 "d. When exiting a roadway to the left.

26 "e. When paying a toll or user fee at a toll
27 collection facility.

1 "f. If the vehicle is an authorized emergency
2 vehicle operated in the course of duty.

3 "g. If the vehicle is operated or used in the course
4 of highway maintenance or construction."

5 Section 3. For 60 days following the effective date
6 of this act, a law enforcement officer may issue only a
7 warning citation for a violation of subsection (d) of Section
8 32-5A-80, Code of Alabama 1975.

9 Section 4. Although this bill would have as its
10 purpose or effect the requirement of a new or increased
11 expenditure of local funds, the bill is excluded from further
12 requirements and application under Amendment 621 because the
13 bill defines a new crime or amends the definition of an
14 existing crime.

15 Section 5. This act shall become effective on the
16 first day of the third month following its passage and
17 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.