

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

SENATE BILL 1923

By: Alvord

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to transportation; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 1-159, which relates to safety zones; modifying term; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-203, which relates to pedestrian-control signals; modifying actions for pedestrians when presented certain instructions; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-308, which relates to one-way roadways and rotary traffic island; modifying name of responsible entity; requiring certain traffic move in certain manner; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-309, which relates to additional rules for driving on roadways laned for traffic; modifying requirements for vehicles driven on multi-laned roadways; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-803, which relates to when local authorities may and shall alter maximum limits; modifying description of certain streets and highways; amending 69 O.S. 2021, Section 241, which relates to the definition of shoulder; clarifying certain use of shoulder; amending 69 O.S. 2021, Sections 242 and 301, which relate to the Department of Transportation; updating statutory language; updating statutory references; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 1-159, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-159. The area or space officially set apart within a roadway for the exclusive use of pedestrians and which is protected or is so marked or indicated by adequate signs as to be plainly

1 visible at all times while set apart shall be known as a ~~safety zone~~  
2 pedestrian refuge.

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-203, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 Section 11-203. Whenever special pedestrian-control signals  
6 exhibiting the words "Walk" or ~~"Wait"~~ a flashing "Don't Walk" or  
7 ~~"Don't Walk"~~ the WALKING PERSON or UPRAISED HAND symbols are in  
8 place, such signals shall indicate as follows:

9 1. Walk. Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the  
10 roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the ~~right~~  
11 ~~of way~~ right-of-way in the direction of the signal by the drivers of  
12 all vehicles-;

13 2. ~~Wait or~~ Flashing Don't Walk or flashing UPRAISED HAND. No  
14 pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such  
15 signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his or her  
16 crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or ~~safety~~  
17 ~~island~~ pedestrian refuge while the ~~wait~~ steady Don't Walk or  
18 UPRAISED HAND signal is showing-; and

19 3. Steady Don't Walk or steady UPRAISED HAND. No pedestrian  
20 shall enter the roadway in the direction of the signal indication.

21 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-308, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 Section 11-308. (a) A. The ~~State Highway Transportation~~  
24 Commission or local authorities, within their respective

1 jurisdictions, may designate any street or highway or any separate  
2 roadway under their respective jurisdictions for one-way traffic and  
3 shall erect appropriate signs giving notice thereof.

4 ~~(b)~~ B. Upon a roadway designated and signposted for one-way  
5 traffic, a vehicle shall be driven only in the direction designated.

6 ~~(c)~~ C. A vehicle passing around ~~a rotary traffic~~ the central  
7 island of a circular intersection shall be driven ~~only to the right~~  
8 ~~of~~ counterclockwise around such islands.

9 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-309, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 Section 11-309. Whenever any roadway has been divided into two  
12 or more clearly marked lanes for traffic, the following requirements  
13 in addition to all others consistent herewith shall apply:

14 1. A vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practicable entirely  
15 within a single lane;

16 2. A vehicle shall not be moved from the lane until the driver  
17 has first ascertained that the movement can be made with safety and  
18 then given a signal, not less than the last one hundred (100) feet  
19 traveled by the vehicle, of his or her intention to change lanes;

20 3. ~~Upon a roadway which is divided into three lanes, a vehicle~~  
21 ~~shall not be driven in the center lane except when overtaking and~~  
22 ~~passing another vehicle where the roadway is clearly visible and the~~  
23 ~~center lane is clear of traffic within a safe distance, or in~~  
24 ~~preparation for a left turn or where the center lane is at the time~~

1 ~~allocated exclusively to traffic moving in the direction the vehicle~~  
2 ~~is proceeding and is signposted to give notice of the allocation.~~

3 4. A two-way left-turn lane is a lane near the center of the  
4 highway set aside for use by vehicles making left turns in both  
5 directions from or into the roadway. Two-way left-turn lanes shall  
6 be designated by distinctive roadway markings consisting of parallel  
7 double yellow lines, interior line dashed and exterior line solid,  
8 on each side of the lane. A vehicle shall not be driven in a  
9 designated two-way left-turn lane except when preparing for or  
10 making a left turn from or into a roadway. Vehicles turning left  
11 from the roadway shall not be driven in the two-way left-turn lane  
12 for more than two hundred (200) feet while preparing for and making  
13 the turn. A vehicle turning left onto the roadway may utilize the  
14 two-way left-turn lane as a staging area by stopping and waiting for  
15 traffic proceeding in the same direction to clear before merging  
16 into the adjacent lanes of travel. A left turn shall not be made  
17 from any other lane where a two-way left-turn lane has been  
18 designated. Provided, however, this section shall not prohibit  
19 driving across a two-way left-turn lane when moving from a service  
20 drive onto such marked roadway;i

21 ~~5.~~ 4. A vehicle shall not be driven in the left lane of a  
22 roadway except when overtaking and passing another vehicle;  
23 provided, however, this paragraph shall not prohibit driving in the  
24 left lane when traffic conditions, flow or road configuration, such

1 as the potential of merging traffic, ~~require~~ requires the use of the  
2 left lane to maintain safe traffic conditions; provided further,  
3 this paragraph shall not prohibit driving in the left lane of a  
4 roadway within the city limits of a municipality or upon a county  
5 road as long as such roadway is not part of the National System of  
6 Interstate and Defense Highways or a turnpike; and

7 ~~6.~~ 5. Official signs may be erected directing slow-moving  
8 traffic to use a designated lane or designating those lanes to be  
9 used by traffic moving in a particular direction regardless of the  
10 center of the roadway, and drivers of vehicles shall obey the  
11 directions of every such sign.

12 Any person convicted of violating any provision of this section  
13 shall be punished as provided for in Section 17-101 of this title.

14 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-803, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 11-803. A. Whenever local authorities in their  
17 respective jurisdictions determine on the basis of an engineering  
18 and traffic investigation that the maximum speed permitted under  
19 this article is greater or less than is reasonable and safe under  
20 the conditions found to exist upon a highway or part of a highway,  
21 the local authority may determine and declare a reasonable and safe  
22 maximum limit thereon which:

- 23 1. Decreases the limit at intersections; ~~or~~
- 24  
25

1           2. Increases the limit within an urban district, but not to  
2 more than sixty-five (65) miles per hour; or

3           3. Decreases the limit outside an urban district, but not to  
4 less than thirty (30) miles per hour.

5           B. Local authorities in their respective jurisdictions shall  
6 determine by an engineering and traffic investigation the proper  
7 maximum speed for all arterial streets and shall declare a  
8 reasonable and safe maximum limit thereon which may be greater or  
9 less than the maximum speed permitted under Section 1-101 et seq. of  
10 this title for an urban district.

11           C. Any altered limit established as hereinabove authorized  
12 shall be effective at all times or during hours of darkness or at  
13 other times as may be determined when appropriate signs giving  
14 notice thereof are erected upon such street or highway.

15           D. As to streets and highways within the corporate limits which  
16 ~~have been constructed or reconstructed with state or federal funds~~  
17 are maintained by the Department of Transportation, local  
18 authorities shall have joint authority with the Transportation  
19 Commission to establish or alter speed limits; provided, however,  
20 the speed limit on an interstate highway within such corporate  
21 limits shall not be decreased to less than sixty (60) miles per  
22 hour; and provided further, that no local authority shall impose  
23 speed limits on any such street or highway substantially lower than  
24

1 those justified by the highway design, capacity, and traffic volume  
2 as determined by engineering studies.

3 E. Not more than six such alterations as hereinabove authorized  
4 shall be made per mile along a street or highway except in the case  
5 of reduced limits at intersections, and the difference between  
6 adjacent limits shall not be more than ten (10) miles per hour.

7 SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2021, Section 241, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 Section 241. The portion of the roadway contiguous with the  
10 traveled way for accommodation of stopped vehicles, for emergency  
11 use, for travel under certain conditions, and for lateral support of  
12 base and surface courses.

13 SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2021, Section 242, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 242. The system of state roads designated by the ~~State~~  
16 ~~Highway~~ Transportation Commission, including necessary urban  
17 extension, the responsibility for which is lodged in the Department  
18 of ~~Highways~~ Transportation.

19 SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 2021, Section 301, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 Section 301. ~~(a)~~ A. There is hereby created a Department of  
22 ~~Highways~~ Transportation and a ~~State Highway~~ Transportation  
23 Commission in and for ~~the State of Oklahoma~~ this state, pursuant to  
24 the provisions of Section 17 of Article 16, XVI of the Oklahoma

1 Constitution ~~of the State of Oklahoma~~, and such department shall be  
2 governed by the ~~State Highway~~ Director of the Department of  
3 Transportation, provided for by Section 305 of this ~~Code~~ title,  
4 under such reasonable rules, regulations and policies and road  
5 improvement programs as may be prescribed by the Commission. Such  
6 rules and regulations and amendments thereto as adopted by the  
7 Commission shall be filed and recorded in the ~~office~~ Office of the  
8 Secretary of State.

9 ~~(b)~~ B. The Department and the Commission created by ~~the~~  
10 ~~preceding paragraph~~ subsection A of this section and the ~~State~~  
11 ~~Highway~~ Director of the Department of Transportation provided for by  
12 Section 305 of this ~~Code~~ title shall be the legal successors of, and  
13 unless and except as otherwise provided by this ~~Code~~ title shall  
14 also have the powers and duties vested by other laws in, and shall  
15 take immediate charge of all equipment, supplies and property now in  
16 the possession of, the Department, Commission and Director,  
17 respectively, created and provided for by 69 O.S. 1961, Sections  
18 20.1 and 20.6, as amended, and shall be liable for their respective  
19 obligations.

20 SECTION 9. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

21  
22 59-2-2809 MSBB 1/18/2024 11:34:06 AM  
23  
24  
25