

By: Representative Manning

To: Transportation

## HOUSE BILL NO. 253

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-3-503, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROHIBIT THE MISSISSIPPI TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FROM  
3 REDUCING THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ON STATE HIGHWAYS TO BELOW SIXTY  
4 MILES PER HOUR UNLESS THE COMMISSION FINDS THAT SUCH SPEED LIMIT  
5 WILL SUBJECT THE MOTORING PUBLIC TO GREAT RISK OF SAFETY; AND FOR  
6 RELATED PURPOSES.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

8 SECTION 1. Section 63-3-503, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
9 amended as follows:

10 63-3-503. Whenever the Mississippi Transportation Commission  
11 \* \* \* determines upon the basis of an engineering and traffic  
12 investigation that any speed set forth in Section 63-3-501 is  
13 greater than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to  
14 exist at any intersection or other place or upon any part of a  
15 highway, the commission shall determine and declare a reasonable  
16 and safe speed limit thereat which shall be effective when  
17 appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected at such  
18 intersection or other place or part of the highway. The  
19 commission shall not establish a maximum speed limit of less than  
20 sixty (60) miles per hour on any state highway unless it  
21 affirmatively finds and enters on its minutes a determination that  
22 a speed of sixty (60) miles per hour or greater is unsafe and  
23 will subject the motoring public to great risk of safety.

24 Whenever the Mississippi Transportation Commission determines  
25 that speed limits set forth in Section 63-3-501 are different from  
26 those speeds set forth in applicable laws of the Federal  
27 Government, then said commission may declare a speed limit which  
28 is consistent with such laws and which shall be effective

29 immediately upon adoption by the commission. Appropriate signs  
30 giving notice of the adopted speed limits shall be erected upon  
31 order of the commission.

32 The maximum fine and sentence to be imposed for a violation  
33 of excessive speed above the maximum limits set by the Mississippi  
34 Transportation Commission pursuant to the authority granted by  
35 this section shall be one-half (1/2) the fine and sentence imposed  
36 by Section 63-9-11 if the excessive speed does not exceed the  
37 maximum limits imposed by Section 63-3-501.

38 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
39 and after July 1, 1999.