

By: Senator(s) Walls

To: Highways and
Transportation

SENATE BILL NO. 2554

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-3-603, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REQUIRE SLOW-MOVING TRAFFIC TO KEEP TO THE RIGHT LANE AND TO
3 PROVIDE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL
4 ERECT SIGNS ON HIGHWAYS SO DIRECTING; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 63-3-603, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 63-3-603. (1) Whenever any roadway has been divided into
9 three (3) or more clearly marked lanes for traffic, except through
10 or bypassing a municipality, the following rules in addition to
11 all others consistent herewith shall apply:

12 (a) A vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practical
13 entirely within a single lane and shall not be moved from such
14 lane until the driver has first ascertained that such movement can
15 be made with safety.

16 (b) A vehicle shall not be driven in the center lane
17 upon a roadway which is divided into three (3) lanes except when:

18 (i) Overtaking and passing another vehicle where
19 the roadway is clearly visible and such center lane is clear of
20 traffic within a safe distance;

21 (ii) Such vehicle is in preparation for a left
22 turn; or

23 (iii) Such center lane is at the time allocated
24 exclusively to traffic moving in the direction such vehicle is
25 proceeding and is signposted to give notice of such allocation.

26 (c) Official signs may be erected directing slow-moving
27 traffic to use a designated lane or allocating specified lanes to

28 traffic moving in the same direction, and drivers of vehicles
29 shall obey the directions of every such sign.

30 (d) Upon all roadways any vehicle proceeding at less
31 than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under
32 the conditions then existing shall be driven in the right-hand
33 lane then available for traffic, or as close as practicable to the
34 right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except when overtaking and
35 passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction or when
36 preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private
37 road or driveway.

38 (e) Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway shall not
39 ride more than two (2) abreast except on paths or parts of
40 roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles. Persons
41 riding two (2) abreast shall not impede the normal and reasonable
42 movement of traffic and, on a laned roadway, shall ride within a
43 single lane.

44 (2) (a) Whenever any highway has been divided into four (4)
45 or more clearly marked lanes for traffic, the Mississippi
46 Department of Transportation shall erect signs directing
47 slow-moving traffic to use the right lane, and that violators will
48 be fined.

49 (b) Motorists traveling on any four (4) or more laned
50 highway shall travel in the right lane and shall yield to
51 motorists travelling at a greater rate of speed. Violators shall
52 be fined Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00).

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