By: Representative Barnett (92nd)

To: Transportation

## HOUSE BILL NO. 329

- AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-3-516, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
- 2 TO REVISE THE PENALTY IMPOSED FOR OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WITHIN
- 3 A HIGHWAY WORK ZONE IN EXCESS OF THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT
- 4 SPECIFICALLY ESTABLISHED FOR THAT ZONE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 6 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-3-516, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 7 amended as follows:
- 8 63-3-516. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to
- 9 operate a motor vehicle within a highway work zone at a speed in
- 10 excess of the maximum speed limit specifically established for the
- 11 zone whenever workers are present and whenever the zone is
- 12 indicated by appropriately placed signs displaying the reduced
- 13 maximum speed limit. Any person violating the provisions of this
- 14 section shall be punished, upon conviction, by a fine of not more
- 15 than double the maximum amount of the fine authorized to be
- 16 imposed under Section 63-9-11.
- 17 (2) For the purposes of this section the term "highway work
- 18 zone" means a construction or maintenance area that is located on
- 19 or along <u>any public</u> highway, road or street within this state and
- 20 that is marked by appropriate warning signs or other traffic
- 21 control devices indicating that work is in progress.
- 22 (3) Nothing in this section shall preclude the prosecution
- 23 or conviction for reckless driving of any motor vehicle operator
- 24 whose operation of a motor vehicle in a highway work zone, apart
- 25 from speed, demonstrates a reckless disregard for life, limb or
- 26 property.
- 27 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 28 and after July 1, 2002.

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