

By: Senator(s) Walls

To: Highways and
Transportation; Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2135

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-3-603, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REQUIRE MOTORISTS TRAVELING ON A HIGHWAY THAT HAS BEEN DIVIDED
3 INTO FOUR OR MORE LANES TO TRAVEL IN THE RIGHT LANE AND YIELD TO
4 MOTORISTS TRAVELING AT A GREATER RATE OF SPEED; AND FOR RELATED
5 PURPOSES.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

45 (2) Motorists traveling on any highway that has been divided
46 into four (4) or more clearly marked lanes for traffic shall
47 travel in the right lane and shall yield to motorists traveling at
48 a greater rate of speed. Violators shall be fined Twenty-five
49 Dollars (\$25.00).

50 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
51 and after July 1, 2003.

