

As Introduced

**130th General Assembly
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H. B. No. 278

Representative Slaby

Cosponsors: Representatives Blair, Butler, Hackett, Maag, Adams, R.

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A B I L L

To amend section 4511.25 of the Revised Code to 1
require that a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight 2
rating or an actual gross vehicle weight of more 3
than 10,000 pounds be driven only in either of the 4
two right-hand lanes of a freeway with three lanes 5
of travel in the same direction, except in limited 6
circumstances. 7

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 4511.25 of the Revised Code be 8
amended to read as follows: 9

Sec. 4511.25. (A) Upon all roadways of sufficient width, a 10
vehicle or trackless trolley shall be driven upon the right half 11
of the roadway, except as follows: 12

(1) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in 13
the same direction, or when making a left turn under the rules 14
governing such movements; 15

(2) When an obstruction exists making it necessary to drive 16
to the left of the center of the highway; provided, any person so 17
doing shall yield the right of way to all vehicles traveling in 18
the proper direction upon the unobstructed portion of the highway 19

within such distance as to constitute an immediate hazard;	20
(3) When driving upon a roadway divided into three or more marked lanes for traffic under the rules applicable thereon;	21 22
(4) When driving upon a roadway designated and posted with signs for one-way traffic;	23 24
(5) When otherwise directed by a police officer or traffic control device.	25 26
(B)(1) Upon all roadways any vehicle or trackless trolley proceeding at less than the prevailing and lawful speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall be driven in the right-hand lane then available for traffic, and far enough to the right to allow passing by faster vehicles if such passing is safe and reasonable, except under any of the following circumstances:	27 28 29 30 31 32 33
(a) When overtaking and passing another vehicle or trackless trolley proceeding in the same direction;	34 35
(b) When preparing for a left turn;	36
(c) When the driver must necessarily drive in a lane other than the right-hand lane to continue on the driver's intended route.	37 38 39
(2) Nothing in division (B)(1) of this section requires a driver of a slower vehicle to compromise the driver's safety to allow overtaking by a faster vehicle.	40 41 42
(C) Upon any roadway having four or more lanes for moving traffic and providing for two-way movement of traffic, no vehicle or trackless trolley shall be driven to the left of the center line of the roadway, except when authorized by official traffic control devices designating certain lanes to the left of the center of the roadway for use by traffic not otherwise permitted to use the lanes, or except as permitted under division (A)(2) of	43 44 45 46 47 48 49

this section. 50

This division shall not be construed as prohibiting the 51
crossing of the center line in making a left turn into or from an 52
alley, private road, or driveway. 53

(D) Upon any freeway having three or more lanes for travel in 54
the same direction, any vehicle or combination of vehicles with a 55
gross vehicle weight rating or an actual gross vehicle weight of 56
more than ten thousand pounds shall be driven only in either of 57
the two lanes farthest to the right, except as follows: 58

(1) When preparing for a left-hand exit from the freeway; 59

(2) When a driver must necessarily drive in a lane other than 60
one of the two lanes farthest to the right to continue on the 61
driver's intended route; 62

(3) When a special hazard exists that requires the use of an 63
alternative lane for safety reasons; 64

(4) When otherwise directed by a police officer or traffic 65
control device. 66

(E) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 67
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within 68
one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 69
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 70
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 71
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 72
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more 73
predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this 74
section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. 75

Section 2. That existing section 4511.25 of the Revised Code 76
is hereby repealed. 77