



S.B. 62

127th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sens. R. Miller, Smith, Goodman

BILL SUMMARY

- Subjects a person who speeds in a school zone when the school zone speed limit is in effect to a fine of two times the usual amount imposed for a speed limit violation.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Current law establishes a speed limit of 20 miles per hour in school zones during school recess and while children are going to or leaving school during the opening or closing hours, and when 20-mile-per-hour school speed limit signs are erected. The end of a school zone also must be indicated by a sign. In general, a "school zone" means that portion of a street or highway passing a school fronting upon the street or highway that is encompassed by projecting the school property lines to the fronting street or highway, including a state highway.

A state speed limit violation generally is a minor misdemeanor on a first or second offense (fine of up to \$150), a fourth degree misdemeanor on a third offense within one year (fine of up to \$250 and possible 30 days in jail), and a third degree misdemeanor on a fourth or subsequent offense within one year (fine of up to \$500 and possible 60 days in jail). However, if a person with no previous offenses operates a vehicle faster than 35 miles per hour in a school zone when the school zone speed limit is in effect, the violation is a fourth degree misdemeanor.

Under the bill, a person who speeds in a school zone when the school zone speed limit is in effect is subject to a fine of two times the usual amount imposed for a speed limit violation. However, no court may impose a fine of two times the usual amount if the offender alleges, in an affidavit filed with the court prior to the offender's sentencing, that the offender is indigent and is unable to pay the fine and the court determines the offender is an indigent person and unable to pay the fine. (R.C 4511.21(P)(4).)

HISTORY

ACTION

DATE

Introduced

02-20-07

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