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SENATE BILL 575

**48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

INTRODUCED BY

Michael S. Sanchez

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; DEFINING "SAFETY CORRIDOR" FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF DOUBLE FINES FOR EXCEEDING THE POSTED SPEED LIMIT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 66-7-301 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,  
Chapter 35, Section 405, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-7-301. SPEED REGULATION.--

A. No person shall drive a vehicle on a highway at  
a speed greater than:

(1) fifteen miles per hour [~~on all highways~~]  
when passing a school while children are going to or leaving  
school and when the school zone is properly posted;

(2) thirty miles per hour in a business or  
residence district;

(3) seventy-five miles per hour; and

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1 (4) the posted speed limit in construction  
2 zones posted as double fine zones or ~~[other]~~ in safety [zones]  
3 corridors posted as double fine zones as designated by the  
4 ~~[highway and transportation]~~ department of transportation,  
5 provided that the posted speed limit shall be determined by an  
6 engineering study performed by the ~~[state highway and~~  
7 ~~transportation]~~ department of transportation. As used in this  
8 paragraph, "safety corridor" means a highway segment with a  
9 five-year history of ten or more fatal or serious injury  
10 crashes as evidenced by records of the department of  
11 transportation. Double fines in a safety corridor shall not be  
12 imposed or enforced until conspicuous notice of the safety  
13 corridor designation has been given within the safety corridor  
14 for at least the ten-day period immediately preceding the start  
15 of enforcement.

16 B. In every event, speed shall be so controlled by  
17 the driver as may be necessary:

18 (1) to avoid colliding with a person, vehicle  
19 or other conveyance on or entering the highway;

20 (2) to comply with legal requirements as may  
21 be established by the ~~[state highway and transportation]~~  
22 department of transportation or the New Mexico state police  
23 division of the department of public safety; ~~[and]~~

24 (3) to exercise the duty of all persons to use  
25 due care; and

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[~~(3)~~] (4) to protect workers in construction zones and other persons in safety corridors posted as double fine zones [~~or other safety zones posted as double fine zones as designated~~] by the [~~highway and transportation~~] department of transportation.

C. The speed limits set forth in Subsection A of this section may be altered as authorized in Section 66-7-303 NMSA 1978."