

1 HB203
2 172379-4
3 By Representatives Pettus, Collins, Johnson (K), Henry,
4 Patterson, Rowe, Fridy, Williams (JW), Greer, Ledbetter,
5 Daniels, Whorton (R), Hanes, Weaver, Harper, McCutcheon,
6 Davis, Lee, Clouse and Ball
7 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
8 First Read: 11-FEB-16

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under current law, vehicles traveling at
9 less than the normal speed of traffic are to travel
10 in the right-hand lane or as close to the
11 right-hand curb or edge of the roadway as
12 practicable. This bill specifies that, on
13 interstate highways, vehicles shall travel in the
14 right lanes unless passing and provides exceptions.

15
16 A BILL
17 TO BE ENTITLED
18 AN ACT

19
20 Relating to motor vehicles and traffic; to amend
21 Section 32-5A-80, Code of Alabama 1975, to specify that, on
22 interstate highways, vehicles shall travel in the right lanes
23 unless passing and to provide exceptions.

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

25 Section 1. This act shall be known as the Anti-Road
26 Rage Act.

1 Section 2. Section 32-5A-80, Code of Alabama 1975,
2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "§32-5A-80.

4 "(a) Upon all roadways of sufficient width a vehicle
5 shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway, except as
6 follows:

7 "(1) When overtaking and passing another vehicle
8 proceeding in the same direction under the rules governing
9 such movement;

10 "(2) When an obstruction exists making it necessary
11 to drive to the left of the center of the highway; provided,
12 any person doing so shall yield the right-of-way to all
13 vehicles traveling in the proper direction upon the
14 unobstructed portion of the highway within such distance as to
15 constitute an immediate hazard;

16 "(3) Upon a roadway divided into three marked lanes
17 for traffic under the rules applicable thereon; or

18 "(4) Upon a roadway restricted to one-way traffic.

19 "(b) Upon all roadways any vehicle proceeding at
20 less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place
21 and under the conditions then existing shall be driven in the
22 right-hand lane then available for traffic, or as close as
23 practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway,
24 except when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding
25 in the same direction or when preparing for a left turn at an
26 intersection or into a private road or driveway.

1 "(c) Upon any roadway having four or more lanes for
2 moving traffic and providing for two-way movement of traffic,
3 no vehicle shall be driven to the left of the center line of
4 the roadway, except when authorized by official
5 traffic-control devices designating certain lanes to the left
6 side of the center of the roadway for use by traffic not
7 otherwise permitted to use such lanes, or except as permitted
8 under subsection (a) (2). However, this subsection shall not be
9 construed as prohibiting the crossing of the center line in
10 making a left turn into or from an alley, private road, or
11 driveway.

12 "(d) Upon any interstate, a vehicle shall travel in
13 the right lanes unless passing another vehicle. A vehicle
14 shall only travel in the left most lane when passing another
15 vehicle. A vehicle shall not remain in the left most lane for
16 more than 1.5 miles without completely passing a vehicle.

17 "(e) Subsection (d) does not apply:

18 "(1) when traffic conditions or congestion make it
19 necessary to operate a vehicle in the left most lane;

20 "(2) when inclement weather, obstructions, or
21 hazards make it necessary to operate a vehicle in the left
22 most lane;

23 "(3) when compliance with a law, a regulation, an
24 ordinance, or a traffic control device makes it necessary to
25 operate a vehicle in the left most lane;

26 "(4) when exiting a roadway to the left;

1 "(5) when paying a toll or user fee at a toll
2 collection facility;

3 "(6) to an authorized emergency vehicle operated in
4 the course of duty; or

5 "(7) to vehicles operated or used in the course of
6 highway maintenance or construction."

7 Section 3. For 60 days following the effective date
8 of this act, a law enforcement officer shall issue a warning
9 citation only for a violation of subsection (d) of Section
10 32-5A-80.

11 Section 4. This act shall become effective on the
12 first day of the third month following its passage and
13 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.