

By Representative Horan

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to state uniform traffic
 3 control; creating the "Chief Richard B. and
 4 Nina Wardlow Highway Safety Act"; creating s.
 5 316.0891, F.S.; providing lower speed limits
 6 for trucks with three or more axles and
 7 noncommercial buses on certain highways;
 8 prohibiting such vehicles from operating in the
 9 left lane or left two lanes on certain
 10 highways; amending s. 316.0895, F.S.; revising
 11 language with respect to following too closely;
 12 directing the Department of Highway Safety and
 13 Motor Vehicles to erect signs within a certain
 14 time period; providing an effective date.

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 16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 18 Section 1. Short title.--This act shall be known as
 19 the "Chief Richard B. and Nina Wardlow Highway Safety Act."

20 Section 2. Section 316.0891, Florida Statutes, is
 21 created to read:

22 316.0891 Speed limit; use of certain lanes prohibited
 23 for certain vehicles as determined by department.--

24 (1) Speed limits for trucks with three or more axles
 25 and noncommercial buses posted on interstate highways, the
 26 Florida Turnpike, and other limited access highways, as
 27 determined by the department, shall be 10 miles per hour less
 28 than the posted speed limit for other vehicles.

29 (2) Trucks with three or more axles and noncommercial
 30 buses are prohibited from using the left lane, or left two
 31 lanes, if so determined by the department, on interstate

1 highways, the Florida Turnpike, and other limited access
2 highways that have three or more lanes of travel in the same
3 direction.

4 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 316.0895, Florida
5 Statutes, is amended to read:

6 316.0895 Following too closely.--

7 (2) It is unlawful for the driver of any motor truck,
8 motor truck drawing another vehicle, or vehicle towing another
9 vehicle or trailer, when traveling upon a roadway outside of a
10 business or residence district, to follow within 300 feet of
11 another vehicle, motor truck, motor truck drawing another
12 vehicle, or vehicle towing another vehicle or trailer. The
13 provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to
14 prevent overtaking and passing nor shall the same apply upon
15 any lane specially designated for use by motor trucks or other
16 slow-moving vehicles.

17 Section 4. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor
18 Vehicles shall post the appropriate highway signs as required
19 by this act within 180 days from the effective date of this
20 act.

21 Section 5. This act shall take effect October 1, 1997.
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HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides that speed limits for trucks with three or more axles and noncommercial buses posted on interstate highways, the Florida Turnpike, and other limited access highways, as determined by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, shall be 10 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit for other vehicles.

Provides that trucks with three or more axles and noncommercial buses are prohibited from using the left lane, or left two lanes, if so determined by the department, on interstate highways, the Florida Turnpike, and other limited access highways that have three or more lanes of travel in the same direction.

Directs the department to erect appropriate signs within 180 days from October 1, 1997.