

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to motor vehicles; providing a popular
 3 name; creating the "Road Rage Reduction Act"; providing
 4 legislative intent; amending s. 316.081, F.S.; requiring
 5 operators of motor vehicles to drive in the right-hand
 6 lane on certain highways; providing exceptions; providing
 7 penalties for violation; amending s. 322.27, F.S.;
 8 providing for the assessment of points for violating
 9 specified provisions that require operators of motor
 10 vehicles to drive on the right side of the road; requiring
 11 the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to
 12 provide an educational awareness campaign; providing an
 13 effective date.

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

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 17 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Road Rage
 18 Reduction Act."

19 Section 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to decrease
 20 the incidence of drivers interfering with the movement of
 21 traffic, to reduce road rage and aggressive driving, to minimize
 22 crashes, and to promote the orderly, free flow of traffic on the
 23 roads and highways of the state.

24 Section 3. Section 316.081, Florida Statutes, is amended
 25 to read:

26 316.081 Driving on right side of roadway; exceptions.--

27 (1) Upon all roadways of sufficient width, a vehicle shall
 28 be driven upon the right half of the roadway, except as follows:

29 (a) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding
 30 in the same direction under the rules governing such movement;

31 (b) When an obstruction exists making it necessary to
 32 drive to the left of the center of the highway; provided any
 33 person so doing shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles
 34 traveling in the proper direction upon the unobstructed portion
 35 of the highway within such distance as to constitute an
 36 immediate hazard;

37 (c) Upon a roadway divided into three marked lanes for
 38 traffic under the rules applicable thereon; or

39 (d) Upon a roadway designated and signposted for one-way
 40 traffic.

41 (2) Upon a two-lane roadway providing for two-way movement
 42 of traffic, a vehicle ~~all roadways, any vehicle proceeding at~~
 43 ~~less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and~~
 44 ~~under the conditions then existing~~ shall be driven in the right-
 45 hand lane ~~then~~ available for traffic or as close as practicable
 46 to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except when
 47 overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same
 48 direction or when preparing for a left turn at an intersection
 49 or into a private road or driveway.

50 (3) Upon any roadway having four or more lanes for moving
 51 traffic and providing for two-way movement of traffic, no
 52 vehicle shall be driven to the left of the centerline of the
 53 roadway, except when authorized by official traffic control
 54 devices designating certain lanes to the left side of the center
 55 of the roadway for use by traffic not otherwise permitted to use
 56 such lanes, or except as permitted under paragraph (1)(b).

57 However, this subsection shall not be construed as prohibiting
 58 the crossing of the centerline in making a left turn into or
 59 from an alley, private road, or driveway.

60 (a) Upon a four-lane highway, an interstate highway, or a
 61 highway with fully controlled access, or the Florida Intrastate
 62 Highway System, a vehicle may not be driven in the left-hand
 63 lane except when overtaking and passing another vehicle.

64 (b) Paragraph (a) shall not apply:

65 1. When no other vehicle is directly behind the vehicle in
 66 the left-hand lane;

67 2. When traffic conditions and congestion make it
 68 impractical to drive in the right-hand lane;

69 3. When inclement weather conditions make it necessary to
 70 drive in the left-hand lane;

71 4. When obstructions or hazards exist in the right-hand
 72 lane;

73 5. When, because of highway design, a vehicle must be
 74 driven in the left-hand lane when preparing to exit;

75 6. On toll highways when necessary to use Sun-Pass and on
 76 toll and other highways when driving in the left-hand lane is
 77 required to comply with an official traffic control device; or

78 7. To law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, and other
 79 emergency vehicles engaged in official duties and vehicles
 80 engaged in highway maintenance and construction operations.

81 (4) A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic
 82 infraction, punishable as a moving violation as provided in
 83 chapter 318.

84 Section 4. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section
 85 322.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

86 322.27 Authority of department to suspend or revoke
 87 license.--

88 (3) There is established a point system for evaluation of
 89 convictions of violations of motor vehicle laws or ordinances,
 90 and violations of applicable provisions of s. 403.413(6)(b) when
 91 such violations involve the use of motor vehicles, for the
 92 determination of the continuing qualification of any person to
 93 operate a motor vehicle. The department is authorized to suspend
 94 the license of any person upon showing of its records or other
 95 good and sufficient evidence that the licensee has been
 96 convicted of violation of motor vehicle laws or ordinances, or
 97 applicable provisions of s. 403.413(6)(b), amounting to 12 or
 98 more points as determined by the point system. The suspension
 99 shall be for a period of not more than 1 year.

100 (d) The point system shall have as its basic element a
 101 graduated scale of points assigning relative values to
 102 convictions of the following violations:

- 103 1. Reckless driving, willful and wanton--4 points.
- 104 2. Leaving the scene of a crash resulting in property
 105 damage of more than \$50--6 points.
- 106 3. Unlawful speed resulting in a crash--6 points.
- 107 4. Passing a stopped school bus--4 points.
- 108 5. Unlawful speed:
 - 109 a. Not in excess of 15 miles per hour of lawful or posted
 110 speed--3 points.

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111 b. In excess of 15 miles per hour of lawful or posted
112 speed--4 points.

113 6. All other moving violations (including parking on a
114 highway outside the limits of a municipality)--3 points.
115 However, no points shall be imposed for a violation of s.
116 316.0741 or s. 316.2065(12).

117 7. Any moving violation covered above, excluding unlawful
118 speed, resulting in a crash--4 points.

119 8. Any conviction under s. 403.413(5)(b)--3 points.

120 9. Any conviction under s. 316.081--4 points.

121 Section 5. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor
122 Vehicles shall provide an educational awareness campaign
123 informing the motoring public about the Road Rage Reduction Act.
124 The department shall provide information about the Road Rage
125 Reduction Act in all newly printed driver license educational
126 materials after October 1, 2005, and in public service
127 announcements produced in cooperation with the Florida Highway
128 Patrol.

129 Section 6. This act shall take effect October 1, 2005.