Florida Senate - 2005

CS for SB 732

 $\ensuremath{\textbf{By}}$ the Committee on Criminal Justice; and Senators Bennett and Bullard

591-1851-05

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to motor vehicles; providing a
3	popular name; creating the "Road Rage Reduction
4	Act"; providing legislative intent; amending s.
5	316.081, F.S.; requiring operators of motor
б	vehicles to drive in the right-hand lane on
7	certain highways; providing exceptions;
8	providing penalties for violation; amending s.
9	322.27, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference;
10	providing for the assessment of points for
11	violating specified provisions that require
12	operators of motor vehicles to drive on the
13	right side of the road; requiring the
14	Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
15	to provide an educational awareness campaign;
16	providing an effective date.
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18	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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20	Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Road Rage
21	Reduction Act."
22	Section 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to
23	decrease the incidence of drivers interfering with the
24	movement of traffic, to reduce road rage and aggressive
25	driving, to minimize crashes, and to promote the orderly, free
26	flow of traffic on the roads and highways of the state.
27	Section 3. Section 316.081, Florida Statutes, is
28	amended to read:
29	316.081 Driving on right side of roadway;
30	exceptions
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1 (1) Upon all roadways of sufficient width, a vehicle 2 shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway, except as follows: 3 4 (a) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction under the rules governing 5 б such movement; 7 (b) When an obstruction exists making it necessary to drive to the left of the center of the highway; provided any 8 person so doing shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles 9 traveling in the proper direction upon the unobstructed 10 portion of the highway within such distance as to constitute 11 12 an immediate hazard; 13 (c) Upon a roadway divided into three marked lanes for traffic under the rules applicable thereon. However, upon any 14 limited access roadway having two or more lanes for each 15 direction of travel, any vehicle driven in the left-most lane 16 17 shall yield right-of-way to any vehicle traveling at a higher 18 speed by moving to the nearest lane to the right at the first practicable and safe opportunity; or 19 (d) Upon a roadway designated and signposted for 20 21 one-way traffic. 22 (2) Upon a two-lane roadway providing for two-way 23 movement of traffic, a vehicle all roadways, any vehicle proceeding at less than the normal speed of traffic at the 2.4 time and place and under the conditions then existing shall be 25 26 driven in the right-hand lane then available for traffic or as 27 close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the 2.8 roadway except when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction or when preparing for a left 29 30 turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway. 31

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1	(3) 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 centerline of
4	the roadway, except when authorized by official traffic
5	control devices designating certain lanes to the left side of
6	the center of the roadway for use by traffic not otherwise
7	permitted to use such lanes, or except as permitted under
8	paragraph (1)(b). However, this subsection shall not be
9	construed as prohibiting the crossing of the centerline in
10	making a left turn into or from an alley, private road, or
11	driveway.
12	<u>(a) Upon a four-lane highway, an interstate highway,</u>
13	or a highway with fully controlled access, or the Florida
14	Intrastate Highway System, a vehicle may not be driven in the
15	left-hand lane except when overtaking and passing another
16	vehicle.
17	(b) Paragraph (a) shall not apply:
18	1. When no other vehicle is directly behind the
19	vehicle in the left-hand lane;
20	2. When traffic conditions and congestion make it
21	impractical to drive in the right-hand lane;
22	3. When inclement weather conditions make it necessary
23	to drive in the left-hand lane;
24	4. When obstructions or hazards exist in the
25	right-hand lane;
26	5. When, because of highway design, a vehicle must be
27	driven in the left-hand lane when preparing to exit;
28	6. On toll highways when necessary to use Sun-Pass and
29	on toll and other highways when driving in the left-hand lane
30	is required to comply with an official traffic control device;
31	or

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1 7. To law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, and other emergency vehicles engaged in official duties and vehicles 2 engaged in highway maintenance and construction operations. 3 4 (4) A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a moving violation as 5 6 provided in chapter 318. 7 Section 4. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 8 322.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 322.27 Authority of department to suspend or revoke 9 10 license.--(3) There is established a point system for evaluation 11 12 of convictions of violations of motor vehicle laws or 13 ordinances, and violations of applicable provisions of s. 403.413(6)(b) when such violations involve the use of motor 14 vehicles, for the determination of the continuing 15 qualification of any person to operate a motor vehicle. The 16 17 department is authorized to suspend the license of any person 18 upon showing of its records or other good and sufficient evidence that the licensee has been convicted of violation of 19 motor vehicle laws or ordinances, or applicable provisions of 20 21 s. 403.413(6)(b), amounting to 12 or more points as determined 22 by the point system. The suspension shall be for a period of 23 not more than 1 year. (d) The point system shall have as its basic element a 2.4 graduated scale of points assigning relative values to 25 convictions of the following violations: 26 27 1. Reckless driving, willful and wanton--4 points. 2.8 2. Leaving the scene of a crash resulting in property damage of more than \$50--6 points. 29 30 3. Unlawful speed resulting in a crash--6 points. 4. Passing a stopped school bus--4 points. 31 4

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1 5. Unlawful speed: 2 a. Not in excess of 15 miles per hour of lawful or posted speed--3 points. 3 4 b. In excess of 15 miles per hour of lawful or posted 5 speed--4 points. б 6. All other moving violations (including parking on a 7 highway outside the limits of a municipality)--3 points. However, no points shall be imposed for a violation of s. 8 316.0741 or s. 316.2065(12). 9 10 7. Any moving violation covered above, excluding unlawful speed, resulting in a crash--4 points. 11 8. Any conviction under <u>s. 403.413(6)(b)</u> s. 12 403.413(5)(b)--3 points. 13 9. Any conviction under s. 316.081--4 points. 14 15 Section 5. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall provide an educational awareness campaign 16 17 informing the motoring public about the Road Rage Reduction Act. The department shall provide information about the Road 18 Rage Reduction Act in all newly printed driver license 19 educational materials after October 1, 2005, and in public 20 21 service announcements produced in cooperation with the Florida 22 Highway Patrol. 23 Section 6. This act shall take effect October 1, 2005. 2.4 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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1	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
2	Senate Bill 732
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4	The CS engrosses the amendments adopted by the Senate Transportation Committee to:
5	- Correct an obsolete statutory cross-reference.
6	- Clarify that drivers of slower vehicles in the left-most
7	lane of a limited-access highway must yield th right of way to faster moving vehicles, at the first practicable
8	and safe opportunity, by moving into the nearest right-hand lane.
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