

STATE OF NEW YORK

6711

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 20, 2025

Introduced by Sen. WEBER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to authorizing local school districts and municipalities to determine and establish school speed limits

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (a) of section 1620 of the vehicle and traffic
2 law, as amended by chapter 563 of the laws of 2002, is amended to read
3 as follows:

4 (a) The department of transportation with respect to state highways
5 maintained by the state outside of cities having a population in excess
6 of one million, and highways on Indian reservations, may by order, rule
7 or regulation establish higher or lower maximum speed limits at which
8 vehicles may proceed on or along such highways than the fifty-five miles
9 per hour statutory maximum speed limit. No such maximum speed limit
10 shall be established at less than twenty-five miles per hour, except
11 that school speed limits may be established at not less than fifteen
12 miles per hour, for a distance not to exceed one thousand three hundred
13 twenty feet, on a highway passing a school building, entrance or exit of
14 a school abutting on the highway. The local school district and munici-
15 pality within which a school is located shall determine and establish
16 the maximum speed at which vehicles may proceed on a highway located in
17 a school zone. Absence of signs installed pursuant to this section shall
18 be presumptive evidence that the department of transportation has not
19 established a higher maximum speed limit than the fifty-five miles per
20 hour statutory limit.

21 § 2. Subdivision 1 of section 1622 of the vehicle and traffic law, as
22 amended by chapter 563 of the laws of 2002, is amended to read as
23 follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 1. Establish maximum speed limits at which vehicles may proceed on or
2 along such highways higher or lower than the fifty-five miles per hour
3 statutory maximum speed limit. No such limit shall be established at
4 less than twenty-five miles per hour, except that school speed limits
5 may be established at not less than fifteen miles per hour, for a
6 distance not to exceed one thousand three hundred twenty feet, on a
7 highway passing a school building, entrance or exit of a school abutting
8 on the highway. The local school district and municipality within which
9 a school is located shall determine and establish the maximum speed at
10 which vehicles may proceed on a highway located in a school zone.
11 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.