

1-1 By: Watson S.B. No. 1919
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2015; March 25, 2015, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Transportation;
 1-4 April 30, 2015, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 3; April 30, 2015,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	X			
1-9				
1-10		X		
1-11	X			
1-12		X		
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17		X		

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1919 By: Huffines

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the establishment of a variable speed limit pilot
 1-22 program by the Texas Transportation Commission.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

1-25 (1) "Commission" means the Texas Transportation
 1-26 Commission.

1-27 (2) "Department" means the Texas Department of
 1-28 Transportation.

1-29 SECTION 2. VARIABLE SPEED LIMIT PILOT PROGRAM. (a) The
 1-30 commission by rule shall establish and the department shall
 1-31 implement a variable speed limit pilot program to study the
 1-32 effectiveness of temporarily lowering prima facie speed limits to
 1-33 address inclement weather, congestion, road construction, or any
 1-34 other condition that affects the safe and orderly movement of
 1-35 traffic on a roadway. Notice of a speed limit established under the
 1-36 pilot program may be displayed using a stationary or portable
 1-37 changeable message sign, as defined by Section 544.013,
 1-38 Transportation Code.

1-39 (b) The commission shall select up to 10 locations to test
 1-40 the pilot program.

1-41 (c) The commission shall inform the Department of Public
 1-42 Safety and any affected local law enforcement agency about the
 1-43 pilot program and the locations that are being used to test the
 1-44 pilot program.

1-45 (d) A speed limit that is established under the pilot
 1-46 program:

1-47 (1) must be based on an engineering and traffic
 1-48 investigation;

1-49 (2) may be effective for all or a designated portion of
 1-50 the highway and may be effective for any period of the day or night,
 1-51 as the department determines necessary; and

1-52 (3) is effective only when the speed limit is posted
 1-53 and only if a sign notifying motorists of the change in speed limit
 1-54 is posted not less than 500 feet but not more than 1,000 feet before
 1-55 the point at which the speed limit begins.

1-56 SECTION 3. REPORT. Not later than December 31, 2016, the
 1-57 commission shall submit a report to the legislature that includes
 1-58 information about the pilot program, the results of the pilot
 1-59 program, and any recommendations for statutory changes based on the
 1-60 results of the pilot program.

2-1 SECTION 4. EXPIRATION. This Act expires February 1, 2017.
2-2 SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
2-3 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
2-4 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas
2-5 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
2-6 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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