

1-1 By: Seliger S.B. No. 1327
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 6, 2017; March 14, 2017, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Transportation;
 1-4 April 3, 2017, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 3, 2017,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

| | Yea | Nay | Absent | PNV |
|------|-----|-----|--------|-----|
| 1-8 | | | | |
| 1-9 | X | | | |
| 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. 1327 By: Hall

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

1-21 relating to the authority of a district engineer for the Texas
 1-22 Department of Transportation to temporarily lower speed limits.

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

1-24 SECTION 1. Subchapter H, Chapter 545, Transportation Code,
 1-25 is amended by adding Section 545.3531 to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 545.3531. AUTHORITY OF DISTRICT ENGINEERS TO
 1-27 TEMPORARILY LOWER SPEED LIMITS. (a) In this section, "hazard"
 1-28 means:

1-29 (1) wet or inclement weather, as defined by Section
 1-30 545.353;

1-31 (2) construction or maintenance activity; or

1-32 (3) any other hazardous condition.

1-33 (b) A district engineer may temporarily lower a prima facie
 1-34 speed limit for a highway or part of a highway in a district if the
 1-35 district engineer determines that the prima facie speed limit for
 1-36 the highway or part of highway is unreasonable or unsafe because of
 1-37 a hazard.

1-38 (c) A district engineer may temporarily lower a prima facie
 1-39 speed limit under this section without the approval of or
 1-40 permission from the Texas Transportation Commission.

1-41 (d) A temporary speed limit established under this section:

1-42 (1) is a prima facie prudent and reasonable speed
 1-43 limit enforceable in the same manner as other prima facie speed
 1-44 limits established under other provisions of this subchapter; and

1-45 (2) supersedes any other established speed limit that
 1-46 would permit a person to operate a motor vehicle at a higher rate of
 1-47 speed.

1-48 (e) A district engineer who temporarily lowers a speed limit
 1-49 shall:

1-50 (1) place and maintain at the hazard site temporary
 1-51 speed limit signs that conform to the manual and specifications
 1-52 adopted under Section 544.001;

1-53 (2) temporarily conceal all other signs on the highway
 1-54 or part of a highway affected by the hazard that give notice of a
 1-55 speed limit that would permit a person to operate a motor vehicle at
 1-56 a higher rate of speed; and

1-57 (3) remove all temporary speed limit signs placed
 1-58 under Subdivision (1) and concealments of other signs placed under
 1-59 Subdivision (2) when:

1-60 (A) the district engineer finds that there is no

2-1 longer a hazard and all equipment is removed from the hazard site;
 2-2 or
 2-3 (B) the temporary speed limit expires under
 2-4 Subsection (g).
 2-5 (f) A temporary speed limit established under this section
 2-6 is effective when the district engineer, as required under
 2-7 Subsection (e), places temporary speed limit signs and conceals
 2-8 other signs that would permit a person to operate a motor vehicle at
 2-9 a higher rate of speed.
 2-10 (g) A temporary speed limit established under this section
 2-11 is effective until the earlier of:
 2-12 (1) the 30th day after the date the limit becomes
 2-13 effective; or
 2-14 (2) the next meeting of the Texas Transportation
 2-15 Commission.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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