

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/SB 244

SPONSOR: Transportation Committee and Senator Mitchell

SUBJECT: School Speed Zones

DATE: January 10, 2002 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	McAuliffe	Meyer	TR	Favorable/CS
2.	_____	_____	ED	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This Committee Substitute (CS) authorizes local school boards, in the interest of safety, to extend the period of time during which a school zone speed limit is in effect to cover the entire school day where a school is bisected by a street or where schools are located across the street from each other and share facilities throughout the day.

This CS substantially amends section 316.1895 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Section 316.1895, F.S., provides a school zone speed limit may be in effect only 30 minutes before and after students begin to arrive for class or for a breakfast program, and 30 minutes before and after students begin to leave school. The section further provides a school zone speed limit may not be less than 15 miles per hour, except by local regulation, and may not be more than 20 miles per hour in an urbanized area. An urbanized area is defined in s. 334.03 (36), F.S., as a geographic region comprising 50,000 or more persons as designated by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is required to install and maintain school zone speed limit traffic control devices on state-maintained roads. A county is responsible for installing and maintaining school zone speed limit traffic control devices on county roads located outside of any municipality, and a municipality is responsible for installing and maintaining school zone speed limit traffic control devices located in a municipality. The section provides FDOT is responsible for compiling, publishing, and transmitting all specification requirements for school zone speed limit traffic control devices to local governments to ensure uniformity.

The standard fine for exceeding the speed limit, not in a school zone is:

- A warning for speeding 1-5 mph above the speed limit
- \$25 for speeding 6-9 mph above the speed limit
- \$100 for speeding 10-14 mph above the speed limit.
- \$125 for speeding 15-19 mph above the speed limit.
- \$150 for speeding 20-29 mph above the speed limit.
- \$250 for speeding 30 mph or more above the speed limit.

The fine for exceeding the speed limit in a school zone is \$50 for up to five miles per hour over the speed limit. The fine for speeding in a school zone by more than 5 mph is double the standard fine for exceeding the speed limit.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This CS amends s. 316.1895, F.S., to authorize local school boards, in the interest of safety, to extend the period of time during which a school zone speed limit is in effect to cover the entire school day where a school is bisected by a street or where schools are located across the street from each other and share facilities throughout the day.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Unknown.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.
