



## SCHOOL ZONE TRAFFIC SIGNS

**House Bill 5585**

**Sponsor: Rep. Thomas Middleton**

**Committee: Transportation**

**Complete to 2-19-98**

### **A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5585 AS INTRODUCED 2-18-98**

House Bill 5585 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to allow speed limit signs in school zones to bear either of two alternate legends: "when children are present" or "on school days when children are present." (This would be an allowed deviation from the Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.)

Under current law, school zones are usually posted with a speed limit sign of 25 miles per hour, the so-called prima facie speed. Sometimes the signs bear flashing lights. However, Michigan law gives authority to school superintendents to set the speed limit in a school zone, in conjunction with local traffic officials, so sometimes the speed limit is lower than 25 miles per hour. Under the law, a "school zone" is limited to the area 1,000 feet from a school's property line in all directions. The speed limit in a designated school zone is in force 30 minutes before and after the regularly scheduled school session, and during a lunch period when children are permitted to leave school.

MCL 257.627a

House Bill 5585 (2-19-98)

Analyst: J. Hunault

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.