

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5238

As of January 24, 2025

Title: An act relating to reckless driving in cases involving excessive speed.

Brief Description: Addressing reckless driving in cases involving excessive speed.

Sponsors: Senators Muzzall, Lovick, Saldaña, Shewmake, Trudeau, Wagoner and Wilson, C..

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Law & Justice: 1/27/25.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Expands the crime of reckless driving to include intentionally speeding more than 30 miles per hour above the speed limit.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LAW & JUSTICE

Staff: Patrick Moore (786-7535)

Background: Reckless driving is defined as driving any vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property. Police officers may arrest anyone they have probable cause to believe has committed reckless driving.

Reckless driving is a gross misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for up to 364 days and by a fine of up to \$5,000. A conviction for reckless driving results in a driver's license suspension of at least 30 days.

Summary of Bill: Intentionally driving more than 30 miles per hour over the posted speed limit is punishable as reckless driving.

Appropriation: None.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 24, 2025.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.