

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 138

BY SENATOR CATHEY

TRAFFIC. Provides for speed enforcement measures. (8/1/26)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:47(A)(3), (4), and (5), to enact R.S. 32:47(A)(8), and to repeal R.S. 32:43(A)(4), relative to speed enforcement measures; to provide for pavement markings in school zones; to provide for pavement markings in compliance with the federal requirements; to provide for compliance language with federal requirements; to repeal certain exemptions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:47(A)(3),(4), and (5) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 32:47(A)(8) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§47. Use of speed recording devices; restrictions

A. Automated speed enforcement devices or mobile speed cameras that are used to issue a citation of an alleged violation by mail shall only be used by local municipal authorities or local parish authorities in the following instances:

* * *

(3) There are ~~forty-eight-inch by forty-eight-inch~~ signs, the bottom of which shall be at least seven feet from the ground, indicating that a device or camera is

1 present, no less than five hundred feet and no more than one thousand feet before the
2 device or camera, in a manner as to be clearly visible to approaching traffic. The
3 signs ~~shall be bright yellow and~~ shall read "Photo enforcement devices at use".

4 (4) Upon the entrance to each school zone, there shall be ~~painted a two-foot-~~
5 ~~wide yellow stripe completely across the roadway with~~ **pavement word markings**
6 **in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices indicating**
7 "Entering School Zone" ~~painted in twelve-inch white lettering visible therein.~~

8 (5) Two hundred feet before the entrance to each school zone, there shall be
9 ~~painted a two-foot-wide yellow stripe completely across the roadway with~~ **pavement**
10 **word markings in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control**
11 **Devices indicating** "School Zone Ahead" ~~painted in twelve-inch white lettering~~
12 ~~visible therein.~~

13 * * *

14 **(8) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require the use of any**
15 **traffic control device or pavement marking that is inconsistent with or not**
16 **authorized by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.**

17 * * *

18 Section 2. R.S. 32:43(A)(4) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Present law provides signs are to be bright yellow and read "Photo enforcement devices at use". Proposed law removes provision that signs be bright yellow.

Present law provides that an entrance to a school zone have a painted a two-foot-wide yellow stripe completely across the roadway with "Entering School Zone" painted in 12-inch white lettering. Proposed law removes provision for a two foot wide yellow stripe painted in 12 inch white lettering and adds the provision that pavement word markings be in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

Present law provides for a painted, two-foot-wide yellow stripe completely across the roadway with "School Zone Ahead" painted in 12 inch white lettering. Proposed law removes the provision for two foot wide yellow stripes and painted 12 inch white lettering and adds the provision that pavement word markings be in accordance with the MUTCD.

Proposed law provides there are no requirements in present law or proposed law that will conflict with the MUTCD.

Present law prohibits local municipal or parish authorities from using automated speed enforcement devices on interstate highways.

Present law exempts a governing authority of a municipality with a population of less than sixteen thousand and more than fifteen thousand according to the latest federal decennial census within a parish with a population of less than 90,000 and more than 70,000 according to the latest federal decennial census from the prohibition in present law. Proposed law repeals the exemption.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 32:47(A)(3), (4), and (5); adds R.S. 32:47(A)(8); repeals R.S. 32:43(A)(4))