

ENGROSSED HOUSE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1024

By: Smith, Dunlap, Taylor,
Pettigrew and Reese

A Concurrent Resolution relating to speed limits on rural highways; memorializing Congress to pass legislation to permit states to raise the speed limit for rural sections of divided four-lane highways; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, in 1991, the Congress of the United States established a 65-mile-per-hour speed limit on rural sections of interstate highways, recognizing recent advancements in road and automobile technology as well as the increased need for rapid road transportation in today's competitive global economy; and

WHEREAS, current federal law continues, however, to restrict the ability of states to adopt this standard for divided four-lane highways of comparable design and quality and quality rural highways classified safe for higher speeds by the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety; and

WHEREAS, within the borders of Oklahoma, most national and state highways traverse broad expanses of rural countryside and, with few intersections or potential traffic hazards, are ideally suited for higher speed travel than is currently permitted by federal law; and

WHEREAS, higher speed limits are essential for promoting rapid ground travel in rural areas of Oklahoma, many of which are not served by rail, air, or any other mode of transportation; moreover, the 55-mile-per-hour speed limit places a disproportionate burden on this state's rural residents, who often must travel great distances for work, shopping, medical care, and other basic necessities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma can best determine maximum speed limits most appropriate to its unique geography, to its vast rural highway system, and to the needs of its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 45TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the 45th Legislature of the State of Oklahoma hereby urges the Congress of the United States to allow states to establish a 65-mile-per-hour speed limit for rural sections of divided four-lane highways and quality rural highways classified safe for higher speeds by the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety.

THAT the Oklahoma Secretary of State forward official copies of this resolution to the United States Secretary of Transportation, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and President of the Senate of the United States Congress, and to all members of the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation with the request that it be officially entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 11th day of April, 1995.

of _____ Speaker _____ of the House
Representative
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Adopted by the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1995.

Senate _____ President _____ of the

