

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 9, 2009

House Bill No. 1368

HOUSE BILL NO. 1368 - By: SMITHSON of the House.

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S. 2001, Section 11-309, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 104, O.S.L. 2006 (47 O.S. Supp. 2008, Section 11-309), which relates to left-lane driving on roadways; clarifying circumstances in which left-lane driving is permissible; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

- 1 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2001, Section 11-309, as last amended by
2 Section 4, Chapter 104, O.S.L. 2006 (47 O.S. Supp. 2008, Section 11-309), is amended to
3 read as follows:
- 4 Section 11-309. Whenever any roadway has been divided into two or more clearly
5 marked lanes for traffic, the following requirements in addition to all others consistent
6 herewith shall apply.
- 7 1. A vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practicable entirely within a single lane.
8 2. A vehicle shall not be moved from the lane until the driver has first ascertained
9 that the movement can be made with safety and then given a signal, not less than the
10 last one hundred (100) feet traveled by the vehicle, of his intention to change lanes.
11 3. Upon a roadway which is divided into three lanes, a vehicle shall not be driven in
12 the center lane except when overtaking and passing another vehicle where the roadway

1 is clearly visible and the center lane is clear of traffic within a safe distance, or in
2 preparation for a left turn or where the center lane is at the time allocated exclusively to
3 traffic moving in the direction the vehicle is proceeding and is signposted to give notice of
4 the allocation.

5 4. A two-way left-turn lane is a lane near the center of the highway set aside for
6 use by vehicles making left turns in both directions from or into the roadway. Two-way
7 left-turn lanes shall be designated by distinctive roadway markings consisting of parallel
8 double yellow lines, interior line dashed and exterior line solid, on each side of the lane.
9 A vehicle shall not be driven in a designated two-way left-turn lane except when
10 preparing for or making a left turn from or into a roadway. Vehicles turning left from
11 the roadway shall not be driven in the two-way left-turn lane for more than two hundred
12 (200) feet while preparing for and making the turn. A vehicle turning left onto the
13 roadway may utilize the two-way left-turn lane as a staging area by stopping and waiting
14 for traffic proceeding in the same direction to clear before merging into the adjacent
15 lanes of travel. A left turn shall not be made from any other lane where a two-way left-
16 turn lane has been designated. Provided, however, this section shall not prohibit driving
17 across a two-way left-turn lane when moving from a service drive onto such marked
18 roadway.

19 5. Upon a roadway which is divided into four or more lanes, a vehicle proceeding at
20 less than the maximum posted speed, except when reduced speed is necessary for safe
21 operation, shall not impede the normal flow of traffic by driving in the left lane. ~~The~~

1 6. Upon a roadway which is divided into four or more lanes, a vehicle shall be
2 driven in the right-hand lane except when overtaking and passing another vehicle
3 proceeding in the same direction or when preparing for a left turn at an intersection or
4 into a private road or driveway. Provided, however, this paragraph shall not prohibit
5 driving in a lane other than the right-hand lane when traffic conditions or flow, or both,
6 or road configuration, such as the potential of merging traffic, require the use of lanes
7 other than the right-hand lane to maintain safe traffic conditions.

8 ~~6- 7.~~ Official signs may be erected directing slow-moving traffic to use a designated
9 lane or designating those lanes to be used by traffic moving in a particular direction
10 regardless of the center of the roadway and drivers of vehicles shall obey the directions of
11 every such sign.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2009.

13 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, dated 02/05/09 - DO
14 PASS.