



January 29, 2020

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## SENATE BILL No. 54

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DIGEST OF SB 54 (Updated January 28, 2020 10:40 am - DI 133)

**Citations Affected:** IC 8-6.

**Synopsis:** Railroad crossings. Subject to available funding, requires the department of transportation to construct, in locations where practical and necessary, lanes and signs at railroad crossings on state highways.

**Effective:** July 1, 2020.

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### Doriot

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January 6, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Homeland Security and Transportation.  
January 28, 2020, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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SB 54—LS 6291/DI 132





January 29, 2020

Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 54

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning transportation.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 8-6-6.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS  
2 A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3 1, 2020]:

4 **Chapter 6.5. Railroad Crossing Lanes**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "department" means the Indiana**  
6 **department of transportation established by IC 8-23-2-1.**

7 **Sec. 2. Subject to sections 3 and 4 of this chapter and to**  
8 **available funding, the department shall, in locations where**  
9 **practical and necessary, construct the following at each railroad**  
10 **crossing on all state highways under the department's jurisdiction**  
11 **with a speed limit of fifty-five (55) miles per hour or greater:**

12 **(1) An additional lane for the purpose of allowing a vehicle**  
13 **that is required by law to stop at a railroad crossing to stop**  
14 **and not impede traffic.**

15 **(2) An additional lane for the purpose of allowing a vehicle**  
16 **that has stopped at a railroad crossing to accelerate and safely**  
17 **merge back into traffic.**

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1           (3) Signs to instruct traffic on the existence and proper use of  
2           lanes constructed under this chapter.  
3           Sec. 3. The department shall determine if a railroad crossing  
4           requires a lane constructed under this chapter to increase safety.  
5           Sec. 4. (a) The department shall give priority to the following  
6           railroad crossings located on a state highway under the  
7           department's jurisdiction when constructing lanes and signs under  
8           this chapter:  
9           (1) A railroad crossing located on a state highway with a  
10           speed limit of sixty (60) miles per hour or greater.  
11           (2) A railroad crossing located on a state highway with a high  
12           vehicle per day count.  
13           (3) A railroad crossing with a high number of accidents or  
14           fatalities.  
15           (4) A railroad crossing with poor sight distance.  
16           (b) The department may use any other information related to  
17           the safety of a railroad crossing to determine the priority of  
18           construction under subsection (a).  
19           Sec. 5. (a) A lane constructed under this chapter may be used  
20           only by a person required to stop at a railroad crossing under the  
21           following:  
22           (1) 49 CFR 392.10.  
23           (2) IC 9-21-8-40.  
24           (3) IC 9-21-12-5.  
25           (b) A person not listed under subsection (a) may use a lane  
26           constructed under this chapter for emergency purposes.  
27           (c) Except as provided in subsection (b), a person who is not  
28           listed under subsection (a) and who uses a lane constructed under  
29           this chapter commits a Class C infraction.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Transportation, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 54, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is to SB 54 as introduced.)

CRIDER, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 6, Nays 1

