

HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	Senate File 378	House Committee:	PASSED 19-0 (3/18/26)
Committee:	Transportation	House Floor:	
Floor Manager:	Rep. Megan Jones	Senate Floor:	PASSED 36-12 (3/18/25)
Date:	April 1, 2026	Governor:	
Staff:	Brad Trow (1-3471)		

Raising the Speed Limit to 60 MPH

- Senate File 378 would raise the state’s speed limit from 55 miles per hour to 60 mph.
- Senate File 378 would also allow local and state transportation agencies to use nonpermanent overlays or stickers to be put on existing speed limit signs.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1 – Iowa Code [321.285 (3)]:

The section would raise the speed limit from 55 to 60 miles per hour. This would apply to those roads that do not have specific speed limits set, like interstates or four-lane highways.

Section 2 – IMPLEMENTATION:

The section allows the agency with authority over a road where the speed limit is changing to use nonpermanent overlays or stickers to be put on existing speed limit signs changing the permitted speed to 60 mph. These overlays or stickers can be used until the existing speed limit signs are replaced according to the agency's replacement schedule.

AMENDMENTS

H-8231, by the Committee on Transportation: The amendment revises to speeding penalties to reflect the change in the speed limit.

Section 1 of the amendment changes Iowa Code section 321.210 (2)(d) to say the DOT shall not consider suspending a license if the first two speeding violations within a twelve-month period were for going less than 10 miles an hour over the speed limit in a zone with a speed limit between 39 and 61 miles an hour. This is a five mile per hour increase over the current Code language.

The section also amends Iowa Code section 321.210C (3) to that that for driving probation, the DOT shall not consider the first two speeding violations within a probation period if they were cited for going less than 10 miles an hour above the speed limit in a zone with a speed limit between 39 and 61 miles an hour. This is a five mile per hour increase over the current Code language.

Section 2 makes a date correction.

Section 3 amends Iowa Code section 321A.3, which allows the DOT to provide an abstract of driving record, to say that the abstract must say if the violation was for going less than ten miles an hour above the speed limit. The amendment delineates the threshold based on what the speed limit was at the time of the offense.

Section 3 also amends Iowa Code section 516B.3 (1), which covers what minor traffic offenses may not be considered by auto insurance companies for establishing rates. The amendment provides that an insurer shall not consider the first two speeding tickets in a twelve-month period if the driver was going less than ten miles an hour above the speed limit.

Section 4 also amends the title of the bill.

H-8245, by Gosa and Jones: The amendment revises to speeding penalties to reflect the change in the speed limit.

Section 1 of the amendment changes Iowa Code section 321.210 (2)(d) to say the DOT shall not consider suspending a license if the first two speeding violations within a twelve-month period were for going ten or fewer miles an hour over the speed limit in a zone with a speed limit between 34 and 61 miles an hour. This is a five mile per hour increase for the upper limit over the current Code language.

The section also amends Iowa Code section 321.210C (3) to that that for driving probation, the DOT shall not consider the first two speeding violations within a probation period if they were cited for going ten or fewer miles an hour above the speed limit in a zone with a speed limit between 34 and 61 miles an hour. This is a five mile per hour increase for the upper limit over the current Code language.

Section 2 makes a date correction.

Section 3 amends Iowa Code section 321A.3, which allows the DOT to provide an abstract of driving record, to say that the abstract must say if the violation was for going ten or fewer miles an hour above the speed limit. The amendment delineates the threshold based on what the speed limit was at the time of the offense.

Section 3 also amends Iowa Code section 516B.3 (1), which covers what minor traffic offenses may not be considered by auto insurance companies for establishing rates. The amendment provides that an insurer shall not consider the first two speeding tickets in a twelve-month period if the driver was going ten or fewer miles an hour above the speed limit. Beginning on July 1, 2026, this provision applies to those violations in a speed zone with a speed limit between 24 and 61 miles an hour.

Section 4 also amends the title of the bill