AN ACT
RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representatives Johnston, Keable, Blazejewski, and Guthrie
Date Introduced: February 28, 2013
Referred To: House Judiciary (Transportation)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 31-15-13 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-15 entitled "Passing, Use of Lanes, and Rules of the Road" is hereby amended to read as follows:

31-15-13. Divided highways. -- Whenever any highway has been divided into two (2) roadways by leaving an unpaved intervening space or by a physical barrier or clearly indicated dividing section so constructed as to impede vehicular traffic, every vehicle shall be driven only upon the right-hand roadway and no vehicle shall be driven over, across, or within a dividing space, barrier, or section, except through an opening in the physical barrier or dividing section or space or at a crossover or intersection established by public authority. Violations of this section are subject to fines enumerated in section 31-41.1-4.

SECTION 2. Section 31-20-13 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-20 entitled "Special Stops Required" is hereby amended to read as follows:

31-20-13. School buses stopped on divided highway or in loading zone. -- When operating a vehicle upon a highway, the driver need not stop upon meeting or passing a bus marked as "school bus" in accordance with section 31-20-11 in the following circumstances:

(1) When the a highway is a divided highway by a median strip separating opposing lanes of traffic and the bus is stopped in the roadway on one side of the median strip divided highway and the driver is operating on the other side of it.

(2) When the bus is stopped in a loading zone adjacent to a limited access highway and pedestrians are not permitted to cross the highway.
SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.
EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES

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1 This act would clarify the meaning of divided highway as any highway that has been divided into two (2) roadways by leaving an unpaved intervening space or by a physical barrier.
2 This act would also allow the driver of a motor vehicle to not stop upon meeting a bus marked as "school bus" under certain circumstances, such as when a highway is a divided highway and when a bus is stopped in a loading zone.
3 This act would take effect upon passage.