HOUSE BILL No. 2656

By Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Requested by Marlee Carpenter on behalf of the City of Wichita and the Wichita Police Department

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AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to crimes involving motor vehicles; creating the crime of engaging in a street stunt and providing criminal penalties therefor; adding engaging in a street stunt to the list of crimes included in fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer; amending K.S.A. 8-1568 and repealing the existing section.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

New Section 1. (a) Engaging in a street stunt is operating a motor vehicle in a group of two or more vehicles while engaging in a course of conduct affecting other vehicular traffic in an intersection or roadway disrupting the normal flow of traffic and:

- (1) Causing other drivers or persons on or near the roadway to remain stopped when such drivers or persons are otherwise legally entitled to proceed or to take evasive action to avoid being struck by a motor vehicle when a reasonable person would fear for the safety of themselves or others;
- (2) resulting in damage to another person's vehicle or property; or
- 19 (3) resulting in injury to another person.
 - (b) Engaging in a street stunt as described in:
 - (1) Subsection (a)(1) is a:
- 22 (A) Class A person misdemeanor, except as provided in subsection (b)(1)(B); and
- 24 (B) severity level 10, person felony upon a second or subsequent 25 conviction; and
 - (2) subsection (a)(2) or (a)(3) is a:
 - (A) Severity level 9, person felony, except as provided in subsection (b)(2)(B); and
 - (B) severity level 5, person felony upon a second or subsequent conviction.
 - (c) As used in this section:
 - (1) "Course of conduct" means three or more of the following acts or violations over a period of time, however short, that evidences a continuity of purpose:

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- (A) Failure to comply with a traffic control device as described in K.S.A. 8-1507 through 8-1511, and amendments thereto; 2
 - (B) improper lane use as described in K.S.A. 8-1514 through 8-1522, and amendments thereto;
 - (C) improper overtaking or passing as described in K.S.A. 8-1515 through 8-1518, and amendments thereto;
 - (D) driving left of center as described in K.S.A. 8-1519, and amendments thereto;
 - (E) failure to yield the right-of-way as described in K.S.A. 8-1526 through 8-1533 or 8-1540, and amendments thereto;
 - (F) stop or yield sign violation as described in K.S.A. 8-1528, and amendments thereto;
 - (G) making an illegal turn as described in K.S.A. 8-1545 through 8-1550, and amendments thereto;
 - (H) failure to stop when exiting a driveway, alley or building as described in K.S.A. 8-1555, and amendments thereto;
 - (I) speeding or exhibition of speed as described in K.S.A. 8-1557 through 8-1560b, and amendments thereto;
 - (J) impeding the flow of traffic as described in K.S.A. 8-1561, and amendments thereto:
- 21 (K) reckless driving as described in K.S.A. 8-1566, and amendments 22 thereto:
 - (L) stopping, standing or parking a vehicle in the driving lanes of a roadway to confront the occupants of another vehicle as described in K.S.A. 8-1569, 8-1571 or 8-1572, and amendments thereto;
- (M) improper backing as described in K.S.A. 8-1574, and 26 amendments thereto; 27
- 28 (N) driving on a sidewalk as described in K.S.A. 8-1575, and 29 amendments thereto;
 - (O) violation of special rules for motorcycles as described in K.S.A. 8-1594 through 8-1598, and amendments thereto:
 - (P) violation of requirements for display of registration plate as described in K.S.A. 8-133 or 8-15,110, and amendments thereto;
 - (Q) failure to use lighted head lamps when required by law as described in K.S.A. 8-1703, and amendments thereto;
 - (R) failure to have tail lamps or stop lamps as described in K.S.A. 8-1706, 8-1708, 8-1802 or 8-1804, and amendments thereto;
- 38 (S) disorderly conduct as described in K.S.A. 21-6203, and 39 amendments thereto; or
 - (T) driving in a circle in an intersection or near pedestrians or occupied vehicles in the roadway.
- (2) "Course of conduct" does not include constitutionally protected 42 activity or conduct that is necessary to accomplish a lawful purpose. 43

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 (d) A person who violates the provisions of this section may also be prosecuted for, convicted of and punished for any offense in chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, resulting from engaging in a street stunt.

- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 8-1568 is hereby amended to read as follows: 8-1568. (a) (1) (A) Any driver of a motor vehicle who knowingly fails or refuses to bring such driver's vehicle to a stop for a pursuing police vehicle or police bicycle, when given visual or audible signal to bring the vehicle to a stop, shall be guilty as provided by subsection (c)(1).
- (B) Any driver of a motor vehicle who knowingly otherwise flees or attempts to elude a pursuing police vehicle or police bicycle, when given visual or audible signal to bring the vehicle to a stop, shall be guilty as provided by subsection (c)(1).
- (2) It shall be an affirmative defense to any prosecution under subsection (a)(1) that the driver's conduct in violation of such subsection was caused by such driver's reasonable belief that the vehicle or bicycle pursuing such driver's vehicle is not a police vehicle or police bicycle.
- (b) Any driver of a motor vehicle who knowingly fails or refuses to bring such driver's vehicle to a stop, or who otherwise flees or attempts to elude a pursuing police vehicle or police bicycle, when given visual or audible signal to bring the vehicle to a stop, and who:
- (1) Commits any of the following during a police pursuit, shall be guilty as provided by subsection (c)(2):
 - (A) Fails to stop for a police road block;
 - (B) drives around tire deflating devices placed by a police officer;
- (C) engages in reckless driving as defined by K.S.A. 8-1566, and amendments thereto;
- (D) is involved in any motor vehicle accident or intentionally causes damage to property;
 - (E) commits five or more moving violations; or
 - (F) is operating a stolen motor vehicle;
- (2) is attempting to elude capture for the commission of any felony, shall be guilty as provided by subsection (c)(2);
- (3) is attempting to elude capture for the commission of engaging in a street stunt in violation of section 1, and amendments thereto, shall be guilty as provided by subsection (c)(3); or
- (3)(4) knowingly drives the wrong way into an opposing lane of travel on a divided highway as defined in K.S.A. 8-1414, and amendments thereto, knowingly departs the appropriate lane of travel into an opposing lane of travel on any roadway causing an evasive maneuver by another driver, knowingly drives through any intersection causing an evasive maneuver by another driver or causes a collision involving another driver, shall be guilty as provided by subsection (c)(3).

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- (c) (1) Violation of subsection (a) is a:
- (A) Class B nonperson misdemeanor when the person being sentenced has no prior convictions for a violation of subsection (a) or (b);
- (B) class A nonperson misdemeanor when the person being sentenced has one prior conviction for a violation of subsection (a) or (b); or
- (C) severity level 9, person felony when the person being sentenced has two or more prior convictions for a violation of subsection (a) or (b).
- (2) Violation of subsection (b)(1) or (b)(2) is a severity level 9, person felony.
- (3) Violation of subsection (b)(3) or (b)(4) is a severity level 7, person felony.
- (4) In addition to the penalty described in paragraph (2), the court shall impose a fine of not less than \$500 when the driver is operating a stolen motor vehicle during the commission of the offense.
- (d) The signal given by the police officer may be by hand, voice, emergency light or siren:
- (1) If the officer giving such signal is within or upon an official police vehicle or police bicycle at the time the signal is given, the vehicle or bicycle shall be appropriately marked showing it to be an official police vehicle or police bicycle; or
- (2) if the officer giving such signal is not utilizing an official police vehicle or police bicycle at the time the signal is given, the officer shall be in uniform, prominently displaying such officer's badge of office at the time the signal is given.
 - (e) For the purpose of this section:
- (1) "Conviction" means a final conviction without regard to whether sentence was suspended or probation granted after such conviction. Forfeiture of bail, bond or collateral deposited to secure a defendant's appearance in court, which forfeiture has not been vacated, shall be equivalent to a conviction. For the purpose of determining whether a conviction is a first, second, third or subsequent conviction in sentencing under this section, it is irrelevant whether an offense occurred before or after conviction for a previous offense.
- (2) "Appropriately marked" official police vehicle or police bicycle shall include, but not be limited to, any police vehicle or bicycle equipped with functional emergency lights or siren or both and which the emergency lights or siren or both have been activated for the purpose of signaling a driver to stop a motor vehicle.
- (f) The division of vehicles of the department of revenue shall promote public awareness of the provisions of this section when persons apply for or renew such person's driver's license.
 - Sec. 3. K.S.A. 8-1568 is hereby repealed.
 - Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its

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1 publication in the statute book.