

**SENATE BILL No. 213**

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

2-19

1 AN ACT concerning the Kansas turnpike authority; related to tolls;  
2 amending K.S.A. 68-2004 and repealing the existing section.

3  
4 WHEREAS, The current Governor has expressed opposition to motor  
5 fuel tax increases to finance a new comprehensive transportation plan; and

6 WHEREAS, Research indicates that operating motor vehicles at a  
7 reduced speed on highways diminishes accident risk and fatalities; and

8 WHEREAS, The Kansas Legislature has not shown interest in  
9 legislation reducing motor vehicle highway speed limits; and

10 WHEREAS, Reducing the speed limit on motor vehicles on highways  
11 would reduce vehicle emissions; and

12 WHEREAS, The Kansas Turnpike Authority has recently increased toll  
13 charges system- wide while the motorist consumers are unable to temper  
14 this spiraling cost during inflationary times despite the fact that the Kansas  
15 Turnpike Authority continues to produce a strong profit in the hundreds of  
16 thousands of dollars annually: Now, therefore,

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

18 Section 1. K.S.A. 68-2004 is hereby amended to read as follows: 68-  
19 2004. (a) The authority is hereby authorized and empowered to:

20 (1) Adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of  
21 its business;

22 (2) adopt an official seal and alter the same ~~at pleasure~~;

23 (3) maintain an office at such place or places within the state as it  
24 may designate;

25 (4) sue and be sued in its own name, plead and be impleaded;

26 (5) determine the location, subject to the approval of the secretary of  
27 transportation, of each turnpike project financed under the provisions of  
28 this act, determine its design and the materials of construction, and  
29 construct, maintain, repair and operate the same;

30 (6) issue turnpike revenue bonds of the authority for any of its  
31 corporate purposes, payable solely from the tolls and revenues pledged for  
32 their payment, and to refund its bonds, all as provided in this act;

33 (7) fix and revise from time to time and charge and collect tolls for  
34 transit over each turnpike project constructed by it;

35 (8) adopt rules and regulations for the use of any such turnpike  
36 project, and adopt rules and regulations for traffic control on such project;

1 (9) acquire, hold and dispose of real and personal property in the  
2 exercise of its powers and the performance of its duties under this act;

3 (10) designate the locations, and establish, limit and control such  
4 points of ingress to and egress from each turnpike project as may be  
5 necessary or desirable in the judgment of the authority to insure the proper  
6 operation and maintenance of such project, and to prohibit entrance to  
7 such project from any point or points not so designated;

8 (11) make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or  
9 incidental to the performance of its duties and the execution of its powers  
10 under this act;

11 (12) employ consulting engineers, attorneys, accountants,  
12 construction and financial experts, superintendents, managers, and such  
13 other employees and agents as may be necessary in its judgment, and to fix  
14 their compensation;

15 (13) receive and accept from any federal agency grants for or in aid  
16 of the construction of any turnpike project, and to receive and accept aid or  
17 contributions from any source of either money, property, labor or other  
18 things of value, to be held, used and applied only for the purposes for  
19 which such grants and contributions may be made; and

20 (14) do all acts and things necessary or convenient to carry out the  
21 powers expressly granted in this act.

22 (b) *In addition to the tolls charged and collected under paragraph (7)*  
23 *of subsection (a), the authority is hereby authorized the option to develop*  
24 *and implement a system of tolls based on the average speed driven*  
25 *between entering and exiting the turnpike project.*

26 (c) Violation of any of the rules and regulations adopted under this  
27 section shall be unlawful and subject to the penalties contained in K.S.A.  
28 8-2116, and amendments thereto.

29 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 68-2004 is hereby repealed.

30 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
31 publication in the statute book.