



2025 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 116

Introduced by: **Senator Peterson (Sue)**

1 **An Act to revise and repeal provisions related to street racing prohibitions and to**
 2 **provide a penalty therefor.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-24:**

5 For the purposes of sections 2 to 7 of this Act, the following terms mean:

6 (1) "Burnout," a maneuver performed while operating a motor vehicle whereby the
 7 motor vehicle is kept stationary, or is in motion, while the wheels are spun,
 8 resulting in friction that causes the motor vehicle's tires to heat up and emit smoke;

9 (2) "Doughnut," a maneuver performed while operating a motor vehicle whereby the
 10 front or rear of the motor vehicle is rotated around the opposite set of wheels in a
 11 continuous motion that may cause one or both of the following:

12 (a) A circular skid-mark pattern of rubber on the driving surface; or

13 (b) The tires to heat up and emit smoke from friction;

14 (3) "Drag race," the operation of two or more vehicles, from a point, side by side, at
 15 accelerating speeds, in a competitive attempt to outdistance each other, or the
 16 operation of one or more motor vehicles over a common selected course, from the
 17 same point to the same point, for the purpose of comparing the relative speeds or
 18 power of acceleration of the motor vehicles within a certain distance or time limit;

19 (4) "Drifting," a maneuver performed while operating a motor vehicle whereby the
 20 motor vehicle is steered so that it makes a controlled skid sideways through a turn
 21 with the front wheels pointed in a direction opposite to that of the turn;

22 (5) "Race," the use of one or more vehicles in an attempt to:

23 (a) Outgain, outdistance, or prevent another vehicle from passing;

24 (b) Arrive at a given destination ahead of another vehicle; or

25 (c) Test the physical stamina or endurance of a driver over a long-distance
 26 driving route;

- 1 (6) "Street takeover," the taking over of a portion of the highway, roadway, or parking
 2 lot by blocking or impeding the regular flow of traffic to perform a race, drag race,
 3 or stunt driving;
 4 (7) "Stunt driving," to perform or engage in a burnout, doughnut, drifting, wheelie, or
 5 other dangerous motor vehicle activity on a highway, roadway, or parking lot; and
 6 (8) "Wheelie" a maneuver performed while operating a motor vehicle whereby a motor
 7 vehicle is ridden for a distance with the front wheel or wheels raised off the ground.

8 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-24:**

9 It is a Class 2 misdemeanor for any person to:

- 10 (1) Drive any motor vehicle on a highway in a race, speed competition or contest,
 11 acceleration race or contest, test of physical endurance, or exhibition of speed or
 12 acceleration, or to make a speed record; or
 13 (2) Participate in any manner in any race, competition, contest, or exhibition prohibited
 14 by subdivision (1).

15 Upon conviction under this section, the sentencing court may revoke the
 16 defendant's driver license or privilege to drive for a period of time not to exceed thirty
 17 days. The court may issue an order, upon proof of financial responsibility pursuant to
 18 § 32-35-43.1, permitting the defendant to operate a motor vehicle for purposes of
 19 employment, attendance at school, or attendance at a counseling program.

20 **Section 3. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-24:**

21 It is a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to:

- 22 (1) Drive any vehicle on a highway in a race, speed competition or contest, acceleration
 23 race or contest, test of physical endurance, or exhibition of speed or acceleration,
 24 or to make a speed record, if the conduct is organized or occurs as a result of a
 25 competitive response to conduct on the part of one or more drivers that, under the
 26 totality of the circumstances, can reasonably be interpreted as a challenge to a
 27 race; or
 28 (2) Participate in any manner in any race, competition, contest, or exhibition prohibited
 29 by subdivision (1).

30 Upon conviction under this section, the court must revoke the defendant's driver
 31 license for a period of eighteen months. The court may issue an order, upon proof of
 32 financial responsibility pursuant to § 32-25-43.1, permitting the defendant to operate a

1 motor vehicle for purposes of employment, attendance at school, or attendance at a
2 counseling program.

3 **Section 4. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-24:**

4 It is a Class 6 felony for any person to coordinate or facilitate, or collect money
5 incident to:

6 (1) A race;

7 (2) A drag race;

8 (3) An organized race prohibited by section 3 of this Act;

9 (4) A speed competition or contest;

10 (5) An acceleration race or contest;

11 (6) A test of physical endurance;

12 (7) An exhibition of speed or acceleration;

13 (8) An exhibition of stunt driving; or

14 (9) A street takeover.

15 **Section 5. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-24:**

16 If the driver of a motor vehicle used in violation of section 2 or 3 of this Act is
17 unknown, the vehicle is subject to a civil penalty of one thousand dollars.

18 **Section 6. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-24:**

19 The state's attorney for the county in which a violation of section 2 or 3 of this Act
20 occurs may commence a civil in rem proceeding against the vehicle used in conjunction
21 with the violation. If it is established by a preponderance of the evidence that the charged
22 vehicle was used in violation of section 2 or 3 of this Act, a civil penalty of one thousand
23 dollars must be assessed against the vehicle, which shall constitute a lien on the vehicle
24 until the penalty is satisfied.

25 **Section 7. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-24:**

26 The lien imposed under sections 5 and 6 of this Act does not apply to a vehicle
27 that, at the time of the violation, is leased, loaned, or being used without the owner's
28 permission. The lien is subordinate to a perfected security interest or lien registered on
29 the title at the time of the violation.

1 **Section 8. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-24:**

2 The provisions of sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this Act do not prohibit any driver or
3 motor vehicle from participating in a public or private race, competition, contest, or
4 exhibition that is licensed, permitted, or otherwise authorized by the Transportation
5 Commission, as established in chapter 1-44, or other local authorities on a highway,
6 roadway, or parking lot under their jurisdictions.

7 **Section 9. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 32-24:**

8 The Transportation Commission, as established in chapter 1-44, or local
9 authorities, may exempt any driver or vehicle from compliance with a traffic law if:

- 10 (1) The driver or vehicle is participating in a race, competition, contest, or exhibition
11 that is approved by the Transportation Commission or local authorities pursuant to
12 section 8 of this Act;
13 (2) The approved race, competition, contest, or exhibit is occurring on a highway,
14 roadway, or parking lot under the jurisdiction of the Transportation Commission or
15 local authorities; and
16 (3) Traffic control is adequate to assure the safety of all highway, roadway, or parking
17 lot users and spectators.

18 **Section 10. That § 32-20B-7 be AMENDED:**

19 ~~32-20B-7. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 32-25-23, a~~ A person may race a
20 bicycle on a highway when competing in a racing event ~~which that~~ that has been approved by
21 ~~the transportation commission~~ Transportation Commission or local authorities on a
22 highway under their jurisdictions. Approval of a bicycle highway racing event ~~shall~~ may be
23 granted only under conditions ~~which that~~ that assure reasonable safety for all race participants,
24 spectators, and other highway users, and ~~which~~ prevent unreasonable interference with
25 traffic flow, which would seriously inconvenience other highway users. Tests of endurance
26 are not considered bicycle racing.

27 **Section 11. That § 32-25-23 be REPEALED.**

28 ~~No person may drive any vehicle on a highway in any race, speed competition or~~
29 ~~contest, acceleration race or contest, test of physical endurance, exhibition of speed or~~
30 ~~acceleration, or for the purpose of making a speed record, and no person may in any~~

1 ~~manner participate in any such race, competition, contest, test, or exhibition. A violation~~
2 ~~of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.~~

3 **Section 12. That § 32-25-25 be REPEALED.**

4 ~~Racing is defined as the use of one or more vehicles in an attempt to outgain,~~
5 ~~outdistance, or prevent another vehicle from passing, to arrive at a given destination~~
6 ~~ahead of another vehicle or vehicles, or to test the physical stamina or endurance of~~
7 ~~drivers over long distance driving routes.~~