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RESOLUTION 2020-17

SETTING SPEED LIMITS

It is the intent of the Montana Association of Counties to seek legislation to allow local governments more freedom to set reasonable context-sensitive speed limits while responding proactively to address constituent concerns.

WHEREAS, Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 7-14-2113 establishes authority for county governments to set speed limits; and

WHEREAS, MCA 61-8-310 places limits on county governments in establishing speed limits; and

WHEREAS, the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) is adopted into law by reference in all fifty states and promotes the use of engineering investigations and judgment in establishing speed limits; and

WHEREAS, county governments desire to promote safe travel for all modes of transportation through the implementation of context-sensitive speed limits in response to community or citizen concerns; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend MCA 61-8-310 to accomplish this; and

WHEREAS, some county subdivisions are built to urban/suburban standards and may warrant speeds less than 35 MPH; and

WHEREAS, any deviation in speed reduction shall be supported by an engineering investigation to determine a safe speed; and

WHEREAS, it is not our intention to amend/effect subsection 2 of the existing statute.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Montana Association of Counties will seek to establish legislation to amend MCA 61-8-310 to allow counties to set speeds at less than 35 MPH on paved roads in suburban subdivisions when warranted by an engineering investigation.

SPONSOR:	MISSOULA COUNTY
RECOMMENDATION:	DO PASS
REFERRED TO:	MACO TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
ADOPTED:	ANNUAL CONFERENCE – OCTOBER 1, 2020