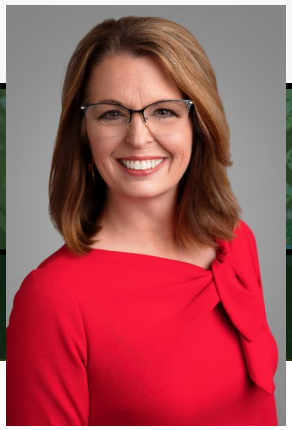

STATE OF ARKANSAS
House of Representatives

Newsletter From Rep. Julie Mayberry

District 92

May 16, 2025

2025 Transportation Legislation

Transportation is more than just a matter of convenience — it's about safety, infrastructure, and supporting the flow of commerce that powers Arkansas's economy. During the 2025 Regular Session, the House of Representatives passed a series of laws aimed at keeping our roads safe, improving communication between drivers and law enforcement, and ensuring our infrastructure is secure.

Work zones — especially mobile work zones — can be dangerous places for road crews and drivers alike. Act 327 now defines what constitutes a mobile work zone and gives law enforcement the authority to double fines for traffic violations within them.

In that same spirit of safety, Act 117 updates the driver's instruction manual and licensing exam to include critical information on how to drive safely through highway work zones.

Act 209 addresses visibility and safety by authorizing the use of green lights on roadway construction and maintenance vehicles.

The House also took action to improve communication between law enforcement and Arkansans with autism. Act 16 creates the Blue Envelope Program, a tool designed to assist individuals on the autism spectrum during traffic stops or other vehicle-related encounters with police. The envelope contains essential documents, while the outside includes communication guidelines to help officers understand and adapt to the needs of the driver.

We also made improvements to how the state handles identification and licensing. Act 17 removes the mandatory $10 fee previously required for a digitized driver's license.

Commercial drivers play a vital role in keeping goods moving across Arkansas. Act 604 was enacted to require commercial driver's license (CDL) holders to possess U.S. work authorization and demonstrate English proficiency.

Act 528 creates the offense of tampering with rail infrastructure, recognizing the severe consequences such actions can have on safety, commerce, and public trust.

In response to an increase in cargo theft in the previous years, Act 322 introduces an enhanced penalty for cargo theft. Those convicted now face up to an additional 10 years in prison.

Together, these new laws reflect a commitment to keeping Arkansas moving safely and efficiently. Whether it's protecting roadside workers, supporting vulnerable drivers, modernizing identification services, or deterring crime, the House remains focused on building a safer and stronger transportation system for everyone.