

H.F. 1908

As introduced

Subject Bicycle regulations

Authors Lillie

Analyst Matt Burress (matt.burress@house.mn)

Date March 8, 2021

Overview

This bill modifies traffic regulations related to bicycles, which includes modifying bicycle riding rules, clarifying bicyclist powers and duties, changing motorist driving rules, and making various technical changes.

Summary

Section Description

1 Bikeway.

Centralizes bicycle-related definitions.

2 Bicycle lane.

Establishes that bicycle lanes are part of the roadway (that is, the main traveled portion of a road) and not a shoulder (the contiguous portion of the road that is not traveled upon).

3 Bikeway.

Broadens a definition of "bikeway" for the chapter of statutes on traffic regulations (which substantially matches the definition being centralized in section 1).

4 Narrow-width lane.

Defines "narrow-width lane" for the chapter of statutes on traffic regulations.

5 Passing.

Requires clearance when passing a bicycle that is at least three feet or half of the passing vehicle's width, whichever is greater, unless passing in a separate lane. Makes technical changes, to modernize language.

6 Traffic laws apply.

Clarifies that bicyclists operating on a shoulder have the same rights and duties as when operating on the road generally. Makes a technical change, to substantially

Section Description

reproduce language on sidewalk and crosswalk operating authority that is being moved from another subdivision in the statute.

7 Riding rules.

Amends various operating rules for bicyclists. Allows a bicyclist to operate the bike away from the right-hand edge of the road as the person determines is safe. Permits bicyclists to proceed straight through an intersection from the left side of a dedicated right-hand turn lane. Eliminates a prohibition on impeding the normal and reasonable movement of traffic. Requires audible signaling when passing an individual or another bicycle on a bicycle lane or path. Makes technical changes, including to eliminate language that is being moved to another subdivision in the statute.

8 Revisor's instruction.

Provides technical direction to the revisor of statutes to make a conforming change to centralize bicycle-related definitions.

9 Effective date.

Explicitly makes the act effective August 1, 2021.



Minnesota House Research Department provides nonpartisan legislative, legal, and information services to the Minnesota House of Representatives. This document can be made available in alternative formats.

www.house.mn/hrd | 651-296-6753 | 155 State Office Building | St. Paul, MN 55155