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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1786

03/12/2015 Authored by Nash and Lillie

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to transportation; traffic regulations; amending bicycle riding rules;  
1.3 amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 169.222, subdivision 4.  
1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 169.222, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 4. **Riding rules.** (a) Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway and  
1.7 proceeding at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place, and under the  
1.8 existing conditions, shall ride in the right-hand lane then available for traffic or shall  
1.9 ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except under  
1.10 any of the following situations:

1.11 (1) when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction;

1.12 (2) when preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway;

1.13 (3) when reasonably necessary to avoid conditions, including fixed or moving  
1.14 objects, vehicles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, ~~or~~ narrow width lanes, ~~that~~ or lack  
1.15 of room to maneuver, that in the judgment of the cyclist make it unsafe to continue along  
1.16 the right-hand curb or edge; or

1.17 (4) when operating on the shoulder of a roadway or in a bicycle lane.

1.18 (b) If a bicycle is traveling on a shoulder of a roadway, the bicycle shall travel in the  
1.19 same direction as adjacent vehicular traffic.

1.20 (c) Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway or shoulder shall not ride more than two  
1.21 abreast and shall not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic and, on a  
1.22 laned roadway, shall ride within a single lane.

1.23 (d) A person operating a bicycle upon a sidewalk, or across a roadway or shoulder  
1.24 on a crosswalk, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give an audible

2.1 signal when necessary before overtaking and passing any pedestrian. No person shall ride  
2.2 a bicycle upon a sidewalk within a business district unless permitted by local authorities.  
2.3 Local authorities may prohibit the operation of bicycles on any sidewalk or crosswalk  
2.4 under their jurisdiction.

2.5 (e) An individual operating a bicycle or other vehicle on a bikeway shall leave a safe  
2.6 distance when overtaking a bicycle or individual proceeding in the same direction on the  
2.7 bikeway, and shall maintain clearance until safely past the overtaken bicycle or individual.

2.8 (f) A person lawfully operating a bicycle on a sidewalk, or across a roadway or  
2.9 shoulder on a crosswalk, shall have all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian  
2.10 under the same circumstances.

2.11 (g) A person may operate an electric-assisted bicycle on the shoulder of a roadway,  
2.12 on a bikeway, or on a bicycle trail if not otherwise prohibited under section 85.015,  
2.13 subdivision 1d; 85.018, subdivision 2, paragraph (d); or 160.263, subdivision 2, paragraph  
2.14 (b), as applicable.

2.15 (h) Upon approaching an intersection where right turns are permitted and there is a  
2.16 dedicated right-turn lane, a bicyclist may ride on the left-hand portion of the dedicated  
2.17 right-turn lane even if the bicyclist does not subsequently turn right and does not intend to  
2.18 turn right.

2.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2015.