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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. 499

01/26/2017 Authored by Quam and Heintzeman
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Regional Governance Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; establishing an urban bicycle lane use permit and a bicycle
1.3 safety education program; imposing a fee; appropriating money; amending
1.4 Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 169.222, subdivision 4, by adding a subdivision;
1.5 proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 171.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 169.222, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 4. **Riding rules.** (a) Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall ride
1.9 as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except under any of
1.10 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 objects,
1.14 vehicles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, or narrow width lanes, that make it unsafe
1.15 to continue along the right-hand curb or edge; or

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

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

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

2.1 (d) A person operating a bicycle upon a sidewalk, or across a roadway or shoulder on a
2.2 crosswalk, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give an audible signal
2.3 when necessary before overtaking and passing any pedestrian. No person shall ride a bicycle
2.4 upon a sidewalk within a business district unless permitted by local authorities. Local
2.5 authorities may prohibit the operation of bicycles on any sidewalk or crosswalk under their
2.6 jurisdiction.

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

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

2.13 (g) A person may operate an electric-assisted bicycle on the shoulder of a roadway, on
2.14 a bikeway, or on a bicycle trail if not otherwise prohibited under section 85.015, subdivision
2.15 1d; 85.018, subdivision 2, paragraph (d); or 160.263, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), as
2.16 applicable.

2.17 (h) Prior to operating a bicycle in an urban bicycle lane, a person must obtain and be in
2.18 physical possession of an urban bicycle lane permit under subdivision 12.

2.19 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 169.222, is amended by adding a subdivision to
2.20 read:

2.21 Subd. 12. **Urban bicycle lane use permit.** (a) For the purposes of this section and section
2.22 171.336, "urban bicycle lane" means a bicycle lane, as defined under section 169.011,
2.23 subdivision 5, that is located within an urban district, as defined in section 169.011,
2.24 subdivision 90.

2.25 (b) The commissioner of public safety must establish an urban bicycle lane use permit.
2.26 The permit issued must be in the form of an individual card created by the commissioner
2.27 of public safety, or as an endorsement on a driver's license or Minnesota identification card
2.28 issued under chapter 171.

2.29 (c) In order to receive an urban bicycle lane use permit under this subdivision, a person
2.30 must: (1) successfully complete the bicycle safety education program under section 171.336;
2.31 (2) be at least 15 years of age; (3) register the bicycle with the commissioner of public
2.32 safety; and (4) pay a fee of \$5 to the commissioner of public safety.

3.1 Sec. 3. **[171.336] BICYCLE SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

3.2 Subdivision 1. Program created. (a) A bicycle safety education program is established,
3.3 which shall be administered by the commissioner of public safety. The bicycle safety program
3.4 may be based in part on the motorcycle safety education program under section 171.335.

3.5 (b) The bicycle safety program must consist of (1) a bicycle safety course; and (2) a
3.6 bicycle safety examination.

3.7 (c) At a minimum, both the bicycle safety course and the examination must include:

3.8 (1) the legal requirements governing operation of a bicycle, including traffic regulations
3.9 under chapter 169 that apply to the operation of bicycles;

3.10 (2) best practices for the safe operation of a bicycle on public roadways;

3.11 (3) recommended and required bicycle safety equipment;

3.12 (4) riding skills and collision-avoidance techniques; and

3.13 (5) any other information the commissioner deems necessary to ensure the safe operation
3.14 of bicycles.

3.15 Subd. 2. Bicycle safety examination. (a) At the conclusion of the bicycle safety education
3.16 program, the commissioner must administer an examination on the materials covered by
3.17 the bicycle safety course. Individuals who, in the commissioner's judgment, demonstrate
3.18 sufficient knowledge to safely operate a bicycle on a public roadway are eligible for the
3.19 urban bicycle lane use permit under section 169.222, subdivision 12.

3.20 (b) A person who attends the bicycle safety program but does not intend to apply for an
3.21 urban bicycle lane use permit under section 169.222, subdivision 12, is not required to take
3.22 the bicycle safety examination under this subdivision.

3.23 Subd. 3. Appropriation. All funds collected from the fee imposed under section 169.222,
3.24 subdivision 12, are annually appropriated to the commissioner of public safety to carry out
3.25 the purposes of subdivisions 1 and 2, and to pay the administrative costs associated with
3.26 issuance of the urban bicycle lane permit under section 169.222, subdivision 12.