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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A bill for an act

H. F. No. 3829

02/26/2020

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Authored by Richardson, Hornstein, Lee and Tabke The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Transportation Finance and Policy Division

relating to transportation; amending regulation of motorized scooters and motorized foot scooters; amending Minnesota Statutes 2018, sections 65B.001, subdivision 1.3 5; 65B.43, subdivision 13; 168.013, subdivision 1h; 168.12, subdivisions 1, 2a; 1.4 168.27, subdivision 20; 168B.04, subdivision 2; 169.011, subdivisions 44, 45, 46; 1.5 169.223; 169.79, by adding a subdivision; 171.01, subdivision 40; 171.02, 1.6 subdivision 3; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 65B; 1.7 repealing Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 169.225. 1.8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: 1.9 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 65B.001, subdivision 5, is amended to read: 1.10 Subd. 5. Motorcycle. "Motorcycle" means a self-propelled vehicle designed to travel 1.11 on fewer than four wheels that has an engine rated at greater than five horsepower, and 1.12 includes a trailer with one or more wheels, when the trailer is connected to or being towed 1.13 by a motorcycle. For purposes of this chapter, motorcycle includes a motorized bieyele 1.14 scooter as defined in section 169.011, subdivision 45, but does not include an electric-assisted 1.15 bicycle as defined in section 169.011, subdivision 27. 1.16 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 65B.43, subdivision 13, is amended to read: 1.17 Subd. 13. Motorcycle. "Motorcycle" means a self-propelled vehicle designed to travel 1.18 on fewer than four wheels which has an engine rated at greater than five horsepower, and 1.19 includes (1) a trailer with one or more wheels, when the trailer is connected to or being 1.20 towed by a motorcycle; and (2) a motorized bieyele scooter as defined in section 169.011, 1.21 subdivision 45, but does not include an electric-assisted bicycle as defined in section 169.011, 1.22

Sec. 2 1

subdivision 27.

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Sec. 3. [65B.473] MOTORIZED FOOT SCOOTER LESSOR FINANCIAL

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2.3	Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For the purposes of this section, the terms in this
2.4	subdivision have the meanings given.

- 2.5 (b) "Motorized foot scooter" has the meaning given in section 169.011, subdivision 46.
- (c) "Motorized foot scooter lessor" or "lessor" means a person in the business of leasing
 motorized foot scooters for financial consideration.
- Subd. 2. Policy of insurance. (a) A lessor must have a policy of insurance that insures
 each lessee of a motorized foot scooter with, at a minimum, the residual liability insurance
 described in section 65B.49, subdivision 3.
- 2.11 (b) A lessor shall disclose to a lessee, prior to allowing a lessee to drive a motorized foot 2.12 scooter, the insurance coverage the lessor provides pursuant to paragraph (a).
- Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 168.013, subdivision 1h, is amended to read:
- Subd. 1h. **Motorized <u>bieyele scooter.</u>** On motorized <u>bieyeles scooters</u> the tax is \$6, which includes the surtax provided for in subdivision 14.
- Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 168.12, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
 - Subdivision 1. **Plates; design, visibility, periods of issuance.** (a) The commissioner, upon approval and payment, shall issue to the applicant the plates required by this chapter, bearing the state name and an assigned vehicle registration number. The number assigned by the commissioner may be a combination of a letter or sign with figures. The color of the plates and the color of the abbreviation of the state name and the number assigned must be in marked contrast. The plates must be lettered, spaced, or distinguished to suitably indicate the registration of the vehicle according to the rules of the commissioner.
 - (b) When a vehicle is registered on the basis of total gross weight, the plates issued must clearly indicate by letters or other suitable insignia the maximum gross weight for which the tax has been paid.
 - (c) Plates issued to a noncommercial vehicle must bear the inscription "noncommercial" unless the vehicle is displaying a special plate authorized and issued under this chapter.
- (d) A one-ton pickup truck that is used for commercial purposes and is subject to section
 168.185, is eligible to display special plates as authorized and issued under this chapter.

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(e) The plates must be so treated as to be at least 100 times brighter than the conventional painted number plates. When properly mounted on an unlighted vehicle, the plates, when viewed from a vehicle equipped with standard headlights, must be visible for a distance of not less than 1,500 feet and readable for a distance of not less than 110 feet.

(f) The commissioner shall issue plates for the following periods:

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- (1) New plates issued pursuant to section 168.012, subdivision 1, must be issued to a vehicle for as long as the vehicle is owned by the exempt agency and the plate shall not be transferable from one vehicle to another but the plate may be transferred with the vehicle from one tax-exempt agency to another.
- (2) Plates issued for passenger automobiles must be issued for a seven-year period. All plates issued under this paragraph must be replaced if they are seven years old or older at the time of registration renewal or will become so during the registration period.
- (3) Plates issued under sections 168.053 and 168.27, subdivisions 16 and 17, must be for a seven-year period.
- (4) Plates issued under subdivisions 2c and 2d and section 168.123 must be issued for the life of the veteran under section 169.79.
- (5) Plates for any vehicle not specified in clauses (1) to (3) must be issued for the life of the vehicle.
- (g) In a year in which plates are not issued, the commissioner shall issue for each registration a sticker to designate the year of registration. This sticker must show the year or years for which the sticker is issued, and is valid only for that period. The plates and stickers issued for a vehicle may not be transferred to another vehicle during the period for which the sticker is issued, except when issued for a vehicle registered under section 168.187.
- (h) Despite any other provision of this subdivision, plates issued to a vehicle used for behind-the-wheel instruction in a driver education course in a public school may be transferred to another vehicle used for the same purpose without payment of any additional fee. The public school shall notify the commissioner of each transfer of plates under this paragraph. The commissioner may prescribe a format for notification.
- (i) The commissioner must issue a registration decal in lieu of plates for a motorized foot scooter. With respect to motorized foot scooters, a reference under this chapter to plates means a registration decal. The decal must be designed to be affixed as provided under section 169.79, subdivision 3b.

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Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 168.12, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

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Subd. 2a. **Personalized plates; rules.** (a) The commissioner may issue personalized plates or, if requested for special plates issued under section 168.123 for veterans, 168.124 for medal of honor recipients, or 168.125 for former prisoners of war, applicable personalized special veterans plates, to an applicant who:

- (1) is an owner of a passenger automobile including a passenger automobile registered as a classic car, pioneer car, collector car, or street rod; any truck with a manufacturer's nominal rated capacity of one ton or less and resembling a pickup truck; a motorcycle, including a classic motorcycle; a motorized bieyele scooter; a commuter van as defined in section 168.126; or a recreational vehicle;
 - (2) pays a onetime fee of \$100 and any other fees required by this chapter;
 - (3) pays the registration tax required by this chapter for the motor vehicle; and
- (4) complies with this chapter and rules governing registration of motor vehicles and licensing of drivers.
- (b) The commissioner shall charge a replacement fee for personalized license plates and personalized special veterans plates issued under section 168.123 as specified in subdivision 5. This fee must be paid by the applicant whenever the personalized plates are required to be replaced by law, except that as provided in section 168.124, subdivision 3, and 168.125, subdivision 1b, no fee may be charged to replace plates issued under those sections.
- (c) In lieu of the registration number assigned as provided in subdivision 1, personalized plates and personalized special veterans plates must have imprinted on them a series of not more than seven numbers and letters, or five numbers and letters for personalized special veterans plates, in any combination and, as applicable, satisfy the design requirements of section 168.123, 168.124, or 168.125. When an applicant has once obtained personalized plates or personalized special veterans plates, the applicant shall have a prior claim for similar personalized plates or personalized special veterans plates in the next succeeding year as long as current motor vehicle registration is maintained.
- (d) The commissioner shall adopt rules in the manner provided by chapter 14, regulating the issuance and transfer of personalized plates and personalized special veterans plates. No words or combination of letters placed on these plates may be used for commercial advertising, be of an obscene, indecent, or immoral nature, or be of a nature that would offend public morals or decency. The call signals or letters of a radio or television station are not commercial advertising for the purposes of this subdivision.

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(e) Despite the provisions of subdivision 1, personalized plates and personalized special veterans plates issued under this subdivision may be transferred to another motor vehicle listed in paragraph (a) and owned by the applicant, upon the payment of a fee of \$5.

(f) The commissioner may by rule specify the format for notification.

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- (g) A personalized plate or personalized special veterans plate issued for a classic car, pioneer car, collector car, street rod, or classic motorcycle may not be transferred to a vehicle not eligible for such a plate.
- (h) Despite any law to the contrary, if the personalized license plates are lost, stolen, or destroyed, the applicant may apply and must be issued duplicate license plates bearing the same combination of letters and numbers and the same design as (1) the former personalized plates or personalized special veterans plates under section 168.123 upon the payment of the fee required by section 168.29 or (2) the former personalized special veterans plates issued under section 168.124 or 168.125, without charge.
- (i) A personalized vertical motorcycle plate may be issued upon payment of an additional payment of \$100. The vertical plate must have not more than four identification characters, cannot be a duplication of any current or reserved license plate, and must meet the requirements in paragraph (d).
- Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 168.27, subdivision 20, is amended to read:
- Subd. 20. Application to sale of other vehicles. (a) This section does not apply:
- (1) to any person, copartnership, or corporation engaged in the business of selling vehicles designed to operate exclusively over snow, motor scooters motorized foot scooters, motorized wheelchairs, utility trailers, farm wagons, farm trailers, or farm tractors or other farm implements, whether self-propelled or not and even though a vehicle listed in this clause may be equipped with a trailer hitch; or
- (2) to any person licensed as a real estate broker or salesperson pursuant to chapter 82, who engages in the business of selling, who offers to sell, or who solicits or advertises the sale of manufactured homes affixed to land.
- (b) However, this section does apply to a person, copartnership, or corporation described in paragraph (a) who is also engaged in the business of selling other motor vehicles or manufactured homes within the provisions of this section.
- (c) As used in this subdivision, "utility trailer" means a motorless vehicle, other than a boat trailer or snowmobile trailer, equipped with one or two wheels, having a gross vehicle

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weight of 4,000 pounds or less, and used for carrying property on its own structure while 6.1 being drawn by a motor vehicle. 6.2 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 168B.04, subdivision 2, is amended to read: 6.3 Subd. 2. Unauthorized vehicles. (a) Units of government and peace officers may take 6.4 into custody and impound any unauthorized vehicle under section 168B.035. 6.5 (b) A vehicle may also be impounded after it has been left unattended in one of the 6.6 following public or private locations for the indicated period of time: 6.7 (1) in a public location not governed by section 168B.035: 6.8 (i) on a highway and properly tagged by a peace officer, four hours; 6.9 (ii) located so as to constitute an accident or traffic hazard to the traveling public, as 6.10 determined by a peace officer, immediately; 6.11 (iii) located so as to constitute an accident or traffic hazard to the traveling public within 6.12 the Department of Transportation's eight-county metropolitan district, as determined by an 6.13 authorized employee of the department's freeway service patrol, immediately; or 6.14 (iv) that is a parking facility or other public property owned or controlled by a unit of 6.15 government, properly posted, four hours; or 6.16 6.17 (2) on private property: (i) that is single-family or duplex residential property, immediately; 6.18 (ii) that is private, nonresidential property, properly posted, immediately; 6.19 (iii) that is private, nonresidential property, not posted. 6.20 (A) for a motorized foot scooter as defined in section 169.011, subdivision 46, four 6.21 hours; or 6.22 (B) for any other vehicle, 24 hours; 6.23 (iv) that is private, nonresidential property of an operator of an establishment for the 6.24 servicing, repair, or maintenance of motor vehicles, five business days after notifying the 6.25 vehicle owner by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the property owner's intention 6.26

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to have the vehicle removed from the property; or

(v) that is any residential property, properly posted, immediately.

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Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 169.011, subdivision 44, is amended to read: 7.1

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Subd. 44. Motorcycle. "Motorcycle" means every motor vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, including motor scooters and autocycles. Motorcycle does not include (1) motorized bicycles as defined in subdivision 45, (2) electric-assisted bicycles as defined in subdivision 27, or (3) a tractor.

- Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 169.011, subdivision 45, is amended to read:
- Subd. 45. Motorized bieyele scooter. (a) "Motorized bieyele scooter" means a bieyele motor vehicle that is propelled by an electric or a liquid fuel motor of a piston displacement capacity of 50 cubic centimeters or less, and a maximum of two brake horsepower, which is capable of a maximum speed of not more than 30 miles per hour on a flat surface with not more than one percent grade in any direction when the motor is engaged. Motorized scooter includes motorized foot scooters.
- (b) Motorized bicycle scooter does not include an electric-assisted bicycle as defined in subdivision 27. 7.15
- Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 169.011, subdivision 46, is amended to read: 7.16
 - Subd. 46. Motorized foot scooter. (a) "Motorized foot scooter" means a device motorized scooter with handlebars designed to be stood or sat upon by the operator, and powered by an internal combustion engine or electric motor that is capable of propelling the device with or without human propulsion, and that has no more than two 12-inch or smaller diameter wheels and has an engine or motor that is capable of a maximum speed of 15 miles per hour on a flat surface with not more than one percent grade in any direction when the motor is engaged.
 - (b) An electric personal assistive mobility device, a motorized bicycle, an electric-assisted bicycle, or a motorcycle is not a motorized foot scooter.
- Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 169.223, is amended to read: 7.26

169.223 MOTORIZED BICYCLE SCOOTER. 7.27

Subdivision 1. Application of motorcycle laws; safety equipment; parking. Section 169.974 relating to motorcycles is applicable to motorized bicycles scooters, except as otherwise provided in this section and except that:

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(1) protective headgear includes headgear that meets the standards under Code of Federal 8.1 Regulations, title 16, part 1203, or successor requirements; 8.2 (2) a motorized bieyele scooter equipped with a headlight and taillight meeting the 8.3 requirements of lighting for motorcycles may be operated during nighttime hours, including 8.4 when operated under a motorized scooter permit; 8.5 (3) protective headgear is not required for operators: 8.6 (i) an operator who is under 18 years of age or older; and 8.7 (ii) any operator of a motorized foot scooter; 8.8 8.9 (4) a parent or guardian of an operator who is under the age of 16 may ride as a passenger if the motorized scooter is equipped with a seat and footrests for a second passenger; and 8.10 (5) the provisions of section 169.222, subdivision 9, governing the parking of bicycles 8.11 apply to motorized bicycles scooters. 8.12 Subd. 2. License or permit. (a) A motorized bicycle scooter may be operated under 8.13 either a driver's license or under a motorized bieyele scooter operator's permit or motorized 8.14 scooter instruction permit issued under section 171.02, subdivision 3. 8.15 (b) A person under the age of 16 operating a motorized bicycle under a motorized bicycle 8.16 permit is subject to the restrictions imposed by section 169.974, subdivision 2, on operation 8.17 of a motorcycle under a two-wheel instruction permit, except that: 8.18 (1) a parent or guardian of an operator under the age of 16 may also ride on the motorized 8.19 bicycle as a passenger or operator if the motorized bicycle is equipped with a seat and 8.20 footrests for a second passenger; 8.21 (2) a motorized bicycle equipped with a headlight and taillight meeting the requirements 8.22 of lighting for motorcycles may be operated during nighttime hours; 8.23 (3) protective headgear includes headgear described in subdivision 1; and 8.24 (4) protective headgear is required only until the operator reaches the age of 18 years. 8.25 Subd. 3. Sidewalk and passenger prohibitions. No person shall operate a motorized 8.26 bieyele scooter upon a sidewalk at any time, except when such operation is necessary for 8.27 the most direct access to a roadway from a driveway, alley or building. No person shall 8.28 operate a motorized bicycle scooter that is carrying any person other than the operator, 8.29 except as allowed under subdivision 2 1. No person shall park a motorized foot scooter on 8.30 a sidewalk, unless it is in a parking area specifically designated for motorized foot scooters. 8.31

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0 Subd. 4. Headlight requirement Vehicle equipment. (a) The provisions of section 9.1 169.974, subdivision 5, paragraph (i), only apply to motorized bicycles scooters that are 9.2 equipped with headlights. After June 1, 1987, 9.3 (b) A new motorized bieyele scooter sold or offered for sale in Minnesota must be 9.4 equipped with a headlight. 9.5 (c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b), a motorized foot scooter must be equipped 9.6 with a headlight and a taillight that comply with standards established by the commissioner 9.7 of public safety if the vehicle is operated under conditions when vehicle lights are required 9.8 by law. Notwithstanding section 169.974, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), a motorized foot 9.9 scooter is not required to be equipped with a rear view mirror. 9.10 Subd. 5. Other operation requirements and prohibitions. (a) A person operating a 9.11 motorized bicycle scooter on a roadway shall must ride as close as practicable to the 9.12 right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except in one of the following situations: 9.13 (1) when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction; 9.14 (2) when preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway; 9.15 9.16 or (3) when reasonably necessary to avoid conditions, including fixed or moving objects, 9.17 vehicles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, or narrow width lanes, that make it unsafe 9.18 to continue along the right-hand curb or edge. 9.19 (b) Persons operating motorized bicycles scooters on a roadway may not ride more than 9.20 two abreast and may not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic. On a laned 9.21 roadway, a person operating a motorized bicycle shall scooter must ride within a single 9.22 lane. 9.23 (c) A person may operate a motorized foot scooter on a bicycle path, bicycle lane, bicycle 9.24 trail, or bikeway that is not reserved for the exclusive use of nonmotorized traffic, unless 9.25 the local authority or governing body having jurisdiction over that path, lane, trail, or bikeway 9.26 9.27 prohibits operation by law.

(d) This section does not permit the operation of a motorized bicycle scooter on a bicycle

path or bicycle lane that is reserved for the exclusive use of nonmotorized traffic.

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Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 169.79, is amended by adding a subdivision to 10.1 read: 10.2 Subd. 3b. Motorized foot scooter. (a) Notwithstanding subdivision 3, if the vehicle is 10.3 a motorized foot scooter, the registration decal must be affixed to the front and top of the 10.4 steering post that connects the handlebars to the rest of the device. 10.5 (b) The registration decal must include validation stickers that display the year of 10.6 expiration at the bottom of the decal and the month of expiration directly above the validation 10.7 sticker for the year of expiration. 10.8 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 171.01, subdivision 40, is amended to read: 10.9 Subd. 40. Motorcycle. "Motorcycle" means every motor vehicle having a seat or saddle 10.10 for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with 10.11 the ground, including motor scooters and bicycles with motor attached, but excluding tractors 10.12 and motorized bicycles has the meaning given in section 169.011, subdivision 44. 10.13 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 171.02, subdivision 3, is amended to read: 10.14 Subd. 3. Motorized bicycle scooter. (a) A motorized bicycle scooter may not be operated 10.15 on any public roadway by any person who does not possess unless the person possesses a 10.16 valid driver's license, unless or the person has obtained a motorized bicycle scooter operator's 10.17 permit or motorized bicycle scooter instruction permit from the commissioner of public 10.18 safety. The operator's permit may be issued to any person who has attained the age of 15 10.19 years and who has passed the examination prescribed by the commissioner. The instruction 10.20 permit may be issued to any person who has attained the age of 15 years and who has 10.21 successfully completed an approved safety course and passed the written portion of the 10.22 examination prescribed by the commissioner. 10.23 10.24 (b) This course must consist of, but is not limited to, a basic understanding of: (1) motorized bicycles scooters and their limitations; 10.25 10.26 (2) motorized bieyele scooter laws and rules; (3) safe operating practices and basic operating techniques; 10.27 10.28 (4) helmets and protective clothing; (5) motorized bicycle scooter traffic strategies; and 10.29

Sec. 15. 10

(6) effects of alcohol and drugs on motorized bicycle scooter operators.

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(c) The commissioner may adopt rules prescribing the content of the safety course, examination, and the information to be contained on the permits. A person operating a motorized bicycle under a motorized bicycle permit is subject to the restrictions imposed by section 169.974, subdivision 2, on operation of a motorcycle under a two-wheel instruction permit.

(d) The fees for motorized bicycle operator's scooter permits are as follows:

11.7 11.8	(1) Motorized <u>bieyele scooter</u> operator's permit before age 21 and valid until age 21	\$ 9.75
11.9	(2) Renewal permit age 21 or older and valid for four years	\$ 15.75
11.10	(3) Duplicate of any renewal permit	\$ 5.25
11.11	(4) Written examination and instruction permit, valid for 30 days	\$ 6.75

Sec. 16. **REVISOR INSTRUCTION.**

In Minnesota Statutes, the revisor of statutes must change the terms "motorized bicycle" to "motorized scooter" and "motorized bicycles" to "motorized scooters" wherever the terms appear in statutes. The revisor must make any necessary grammatical changes or changes to sentence structure necessary to preserve the meaning of the text as a result of the changes.

11.17 Sec. 17. **REPEALER.**

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11.18 Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 169.225, is repealed.

11.19 Sec. 18. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Unless otherwise provided, this act is effective August 1, 2021.

Sec. 18.

APPENDIX Repealed Minnesota Statutes: 20-7294

169.225 MOTORIZED FOOT SCOOTER.

Subdivision 1. **Application of traffic laws.** Every person operating a motorized foot scooter shall have all rights and duties applicable to the operator of a bicycle, except in respect to those provisions relating expressly to motorized foot scooters and in respect to those provisions of law that by their nature cannot reasonably be applied to motorized foot scooters.

- Subd. 2. **Sidewalk and passenger prohibition.** No person may operate a motorized foot scooter upon a sidewalk, except when necessary to enter or leave adjacent property. No person may operate a motorized foot scooter that is carrying any person other than the operator.
- Subd. 3. **Minimum age for operator.** No person under the age of 12 years may operate a motorized foot scooter.
- Subd. 4. **Protective headgear.** No person under the age of 18 years may operate a motorized foot scooter without wearing properly fitted and fastened protective headgear that complies with standards established by the commissioner of public safety.
- Subd. 5. **Required lighting equipment.** A motorized foot scooter must be equipped with a headlight and a taillight that comply with standards established by the commissioner of public safety if the vehicle is operated under conditions when vehicle lights are required by law.
- Subd. 6. **Operation requirements and prohibitions.** (a) A person operating a motorized foot scooter on a roadway shall ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except in the following situations:
 - (1) when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction;
- (2) when preparing for a left turn, in which case the operator shall stop and dismount at the right-hand curb or right edge of the roadway, and shall complete the turn by crossing the roadway on foot, subject to restrictions placed by law on pedestrians; or
- (3) when reasonably necessary to avoid impediments or conditions that make it unsafe to continue along the right-hand curb or edge, including, but not limited to, fixed or moving objects, vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, or narrow lanes.
- (b) A person may operate a motorized foot scooter on a bicycle path, bicycle lane, bicycle trail, or bikeway that is not reserved for the exclusive use of nonmotorized traffic, unless the local authority or governing body having jurisdiction over that path, lane, trail, or bikeway prohibits operation by law.