

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 247—ASSEMBLYMEN BOBZIEN, LESLIE,
HARDY, DENIS; AIZLEY, KIHUEN, MASTROLUCA,
OHRENSCHALL, PIERCE, SEGERBLOM AND SMITH

MARCH 5, 2009

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS COPENING, PARKS,
HARDY AND LEE

Referred to Committee on Transportation

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the operation of
bicycles. (BDR 43-1046)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Increases or Newly
Provides for Term of Imprisonment in County or City
Jail or Detention Facility.
Effect on the State: No.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to bicycles; revising provisions governing the
operation of bicycles; providing a penalty; and providing
other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides that every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway is generally subject to the provisions of chapter 484 of NRS which apply to drivers of vehicles. (NRS 484.503) Existing law requires the driver of a vehicle to signal an intention to turn from a direct course continuously during not less than the last 100 feet traveled in a business or residential district and not less than the last 300 feet traveled in any other area. (NRS 484.343) **Section 2** of this bill exempts the operator of a bicycle from these requirements and instead requires the operator only to signal his intention to turn at least one time, unless the bicycle is in a designated turn lane or when safe operation of the bicycle requires the operator to keep both hands on the bicycle.

Existing law provides for the methods of giving signals by hand and arm. (NRS 484.347) **Section 3** of this bill authorizes an operator of a bicycle to signal for a right turn by extending his right hand and arm horizontally and to the right side of the bicycle.

Existing law prohibits the driving of a vehicle upon any sidewalk area. (NRS 484.451) **Section 4** of this bill provides that an operator of a bicycle may operate a bicycle upon any sidewalk area unless a local ordinance prohibits or restricts such



* A B 2 4 7 *

18 operation. **Section 4** also provides that any ordinance enacted by a local authority
19 which requires the operation of bicycles only upon sidewalk areas is void.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 484 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.

3 **Sec. 2. 1.** *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, an*
4 *operator of a bicycle upon a roadway shall not turn from a direct*
5 *course unless the movement may be made with reasonable safety*
6 *and the operator gives an appropriate signal. The operator shall*
7 *give the appropriate signal at least one time but is not required to*
8 *give the signal continuously.*

9 **2.** *An operator of a bicycle is not required to give a signal if:*

10 *(a) The bicycle is in a designated turn lane; or*

11 *(b) Safe operation of the bicycle requires the operator to keep*
12 *both hands on the bicycle.*

13 **Sec. 3.** *An operator of a bicycle upon a roadway shall give all*
14 *signals by hand and arm in the manner required by NRS 484.347,*
15 *except that the operator may give a signal for a right turn by*
16 *extending his right hand and arm horizontally and to the right*
17 *side of the bicycle.*

18 **Sec. 4. 1.** *Except as otherwise provided by a local*
19 *ordinance described in subsection 2, an operator of a bicycle may*
20 *operate the bicycle upon any sidewalk area.*

21 **2.** *The provisions of subsection 1 do not prohibit a local*
22 *authority from enacting an ordinance prohibiting or restricting*
23 *the operation of bicycles upon any sidewalk area within its*
24 *jurisdiction.*

25 **3.** *Any ordinance enacted by a local authority which requires*
26 *the operation of bicycles only upon sidewalk areas is void.*

27 **Sec. 5.** NRS 484.501 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 484.501 1. It is a misdemeanor for any person to do any act
29 forbidden or fail to perform any act required in NRS 484.505 to
30 484.513, inclusive ~~{,}~~, *and sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.*

31 2. The parent of any child and the guardian of any ward shall
32 not authorize or knowingly permit ~~{any such}~~ *the* child or ward to
33 violate any of the provisions of this chapter.

34 3. The provisions applicable to bicycles ~~{shall}~~ apply whenever
35 a bicycle is operated upon any highway or upon any path set aside
36 for the exclusive use of bicycles subject to those exceptions stated
37 herein.



1 **Sec. 6.** NRS 484.503 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 484.503 Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway has all
3 of the rights and is subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver
4 of a vehicle except as otherwise provided in NRS 484.504 to
5 484.513, inclusive, *and sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act* and except as
6 to those provisions of this chapter which by their nature can have no
7 application.

