

39:4-14.2

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 39:4-14.2

(Bicyclists-permit them to use roadway even if adjacent bike path)

LAW OF: 1983

CHAPTER: 257

Bill No: S1183

Sponsor(s): Rand

Date Introduced: March 15, 1982

Committee: Assembly: Transportation and Communications

Senate: Transportation and Communications

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: May 26, 1983

Senate: July 12, 1982

Date of Approval: July 7, 1983

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly Yes

Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

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SENATE, No. 1183

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 15, 1982

By Senator RAND

Referred to Committee on Transportation and Communications

AN ACT to amend "An act concerning traffic regulations, and amending and supplementing chapter 4 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes and certain other statutes relating thereto," approved April 5, 1951 P. L. 1951, c. 23).

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Section 17 of P. L. 1951, c. 23 (C. 39:4-14.2) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 17. Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall ride,
4 as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable, exercising
5 due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the
6 same direction; provided, however, that any person may move to
7 the left under any of the following situations:

8 (a) to make a left turn from a left-turn or pocket;

9 (b) to avoid debris, drains or other hazardous conditions that
10 make it impracticable to ride at the right side of the roadway;

11 (c) to pass a slower moving vehicle;

12 (d) to occupy any available lane when traveling at the same
13 speed as other traffic;

14 (e) to travel no more than two abreast when traffic is not
15 impeded.

16 Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway may travel no more than
17 two abreast when traffic is not impeded, but otherwise shall ride
18 in single file except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the
19 exclusive use of bicycles.

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill
is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

20 **【Wherever a usable path for bicycles has been provided adjacent**
21 **to a roadway, bicycle riders shall use such path and shall not use**
22 **the roadway.】**

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill would allow bicycle riders to use a roadway even when there is an adjacent bicycle path. Many bicycle paths are poorly constructed, poorly maintained, and poorly lit. Moreover, cyclists biking at high speeds often cannot use these paths because of the presence of children and pedestrians. This bill would allow the cyclist to choose the safest route, whether road or path.

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51183 (1982)

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 1183

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 25, 1982

This bill removes the statutory requirement that wherever a usable path for bicycles has been provided adjacent to a roadway, bicycle riders shall use such path and shall not use the roadway.

The Department of Transportation supports this bill.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 1183

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 21, 1982

This bill amends existing law by deleting the requirement that bicyclists must use bicycle paths adjacent to roadways and not the roadways themselves. This would therefore permit bicyclists to choose either the path or the roadway.