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## DIGEST

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Williams

HB No. 513

**Abstract:** Revises provisions relative to bicycles and traffic movement.

Present law defines bicycle as "every device propelled by human power upon which any person may ride and designed to travel on two tandem wheels".

Proposed law defines bicycle as "every device upon which any person may ride, propelled exclusively by human power, and having one or more wheels".

Present law defines "bicycle lane" as "the part of the roadway adjacent to the travel lane, designated by striping, signing, and pavement markers for the preferential or exclusive use by bicycles and usually elective mobility aid users".

Proposed law defines "bicycle lane" as the part of the roadway adjacent to the travel lane, designated by official signs or markings for the preferential or exclusive use by bicycles and electric mobility aid users.

Present law defines "crosswalk" in part as "that part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or, in absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway".

Proposed law defines "crosswalk" in part as "that part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks shoulders or a combination thereof on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or, in absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway or if there is neither a sidewalk nor shoulder, a crosswalk is the portion of the roadway at an intersection that would be included within the prolongation of the lateral lines of the sidewalk, shoulder, or both on the opposite side of the street if there were a sidewalk or shoulder".

Present law defines "shoulder" as "the portion of the highway contiguous with the roadway for accommodation of stopped vehicles, for emergency use, pedestrian use, mobility aid use, or bicyclists when other accommodations are not available, and for lateral support of base and surface".

Proposed law defines "shoulder" as "the portion of the highway contiguous with the roadway for accommodation of stopped vehicles, for emergency use, pedestrian use, mobility aid use, bicycle use, and for lateral support of base and surface.

Present law provides that when traffic-control signals are not in place or not in operation the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling or when the pedestrian is approaching closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger.

Proposed law provides when traffic-control signals are not in place or not in operation the driver of a vehicle shall stop and yield the right-of-way, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling or the roadway onto which the vehicle is turning.

Present law provides that whenever traffic is controlled by traffic-control signals exhibiting a green colored light or arrow signal that vehicular traffic shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk at the time such signal is exhibited.

Proposed law provides that whenever traffic is controlled by traffic-control signals exhibiting a green colored light or arrow signal that vehicular traffic shall stop and yield the right-of-way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk at the time such signal is exhibited.

Present law provides that the "Share the Road" prestige license plate shall be issued upon application to any citizen of La.

Proposed law provides that the "Share the Road" prestige license plate shall be issued to any person, in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate.

Present law provides that DPS&C shall collect an initial fee of \$25 for the "Share the Road" prestige license plate

Proposed law provides that DPS&C shall collect an annual royalty fee of \$25 for the "Share the Road" prestige license plate.

Present law provides that the driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass upon the right of another vehicle under certain conditions.

Proposed law provides that the section of law permitting a vehicle to overtake and pass upon the right of another vehicle under certain conditions does not prohibit the use of a bicycle in a bicycle lane or on a shoulder.

Present law provides that every bicycle when in use at nighttime shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and with a red reflector on the rear and a reflector on each side facing outward at a right angle to the bicycle frame, all of a type approved by the department which shall be visible from all distances within 600 feet to 100 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of

headlamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector.

Proposed law provides that any bicycle when in use at the times required by law shall be equipped with the following equipment:

- (1) A lamp mounted on the front that shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front. A generator-powered lamp that emits light only when the bicycle is moving may be used to meet this requirement.
- (2) A lamp mounted on the rear that shall emit either flashing or steady red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used in lieu of the red reflector.
- (3) A red reflector mounted on the rear and a reflector on each side facing outward at a right angle to the bicycle frame that shall be visible from all distances from 100 feet to 600 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle.

Present law requires every bicycle when in use at nighttime on a state highway, parish road, or city street, in addition to the requirements of present law, shall be equipped with a lamp emitting a red flashing light or a red light on the rear of the bicycle, which has sufficient candle power so that such lamp projects light from all distances within 100 feet to 600 feet when directly in front of lawful lower beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law provides that a lamp or lamps worn by the operator of a bicycle shall comply with the requirements of proposed law if the lamp or lamps can be seen at the distances specified.

Present law provides that persons riding bicycles upon a roadway, which includes an improved shoulder, may ride upon the improved shoulder.

Proposed law repeals present law.

(Amends R.S. 32:1(4), (4.2), (13), and (65), 212(A), and 232(1)(a) and (b) and R.S. 47:463.148(B), (C), and (D)(1); Adds R.S. 32:74(C) and 329.1; Repeals R.S. 32:197(B) and 329)