

Senate File 2224 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2224

BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2076)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the overtaking and passing of bicyclists by
2 motor vehicles, and applying existing penalties.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.281, subsection 1, Code 2016, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. A person operating a motor vehicle shall not steer the
4 motor vehicle unreasonably close to or toward a person riding a
5 bicycle on a highway, including the roadway, ~~or~~ the shoulder
6 adjacent to the roadway, or a lane designated for the travel
7 of bicycles.

8 Sec. 2. Section 321.299, Code 2016, is amended to read as
9 follows:

10 **321.299 Overtaking a vehicle or bicycle.**

11 The following rules shall govern the overtaking and passing
12 of vehicles and bicycles proceeding in the same direction,
13 subject to those limitations, exceptions, and special rules
14 hereinafter stated:

15 1. The driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle
16 proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left of the
17 other vehicle at a safe distance and shall not again drive
18 to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the
19 overtaken vehicle.

20 2. Except when overtaking and passing on the right is
21 permitted, the driver of an overtaken vehicle shall give way
22 to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle and shall not
23 increase the speed of the overtaken vehicle until completely
24 passed by the overtaking vehicle.

25 3. The driver of a vehicle overtaking a person riding a
26 bicycle proceeding in the same direction on a roadway shall
27 pass to the left of the bicycle in an adjacent travel lane or
28 on the opposite side of the roadway and shall not again drive
29 to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the
30 overtaken bicycle in accordance with section 321.281. This
31 subsection shall not apply to a vehicle overtaking a bicycle
32 which is traveling on a paved shoulder or in a lane designated
33 for the travel of bicycles.

34 EXPLANATION

35 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

1 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

2 Code section 321.281 prohibits a person operating a motor
3 vehicle from steering the vehicle unreasonably close to or
4 toward a person riding a bicycle on a highway. This bill
5 broadens that prohibition to include a person riding a bicycle
6 in a lane designated for the travel of bicycles.

7 The bill requires the driver of a vehicle overtaking a person
8 riding a bicycle proceeding in the same direction on a roadway
9 to pass to the left of the bicycle in an adjacent travel lane or
10 on the opposite side of the roadway, and prohibits the driver
11 from returning to the right side of the roadway until safely
12 clear of the overtaken bicycle in accordance with Code section
13 321.281. This requirement does not apply if the bicycle is
14 traveling on a paved shoulder or in a lane designated for the
15 travel of bicycles.

16 Under current law, a violation of Code section 321.281 is
17 punishable by a scheduled fine of \$250 and a violation of Code
18 section 321.299 is punishable by a scheduled fine of \$100.