

Legislative Analysis



DRIVER TRAINING ON BICYCLISTS AND OTHER VULNERABLE ROADWAY USERS

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4198 (H-1) as reported from committee
Sponsor: Rep. Julie Alexander
Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure
Complete to 2-22-18

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4198 would amend the Driver Education Provider and Instructor Act to require segment 1 driver education to include at least one hour of classroom instruction on laws pertaining to bicycles, motorcycles, and other vulnerable roadway users, including pedestrians.

Current law requires that a segment 1 curriculum (the initial teen driver education course) include classroom instruction on laws that pertain to bicycles and motorcycles. House Bill 4198 would add instruction on laws regarding “other vulnerable roadway users, including pedestrians,” and mandate that this component of classroom instruction be at least 1 hour of the 24 hours of classroom instruction required for the segment 1 curriculum.

House Bill 4198 would also require state laws pertaining to awareness of bicycles, motorcycles, and other vulnerable roadway users, including pedestrians, to be incorporated into other appropriate areas of the driver education curriculum, including both the model curriculum and an approved curriculum described in Section 35. The information could also be incorporated into the segment 1 curriculum described in Section 37 or the segment 2 classroom course described in Section 39(b).

The bill would take effect 90 days after being enacted into law.

MCL 256.657

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4198 would result in an undetermined increase in administrative costs to the Department of State primarily due to the one-hour minimum time requirement for the added training. The bill would have no apparent impact on local units of government.

POSITIONS:

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

- Michigan Environmental Council (2-13-18)
- Sierra Club (2-13-18)
- League of Michigan Bicyclists (2-13-18)
- ABATE of Michigan (2-13-18)

- City of Grand Rapids (2-20-18)
- AAA of Michigan (2-20-18)
- Capital City Cycling Club (2-20-18)
- Tri-County Bicycle Association (2-20-18)
- Michigan Trails (2-20-18)
- Michigan Municipal League (2-20-18)
- Downriver Cycling Club (2-21-18)

The Office of the Secretary of State is neutral regarding the bill. (2-20-18)

Legislative Analyst: E. Best
Fiscal Analyst: Michael Cnossen

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.