AN ACT IMPROVING BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2009) (a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Department" means the Department of Transportation;

(2) "Funds" means any funds from the Special Transportation Fund, bond allocations and any other source that is available for the construction, maintenance and repair of roads in this state;

(3) "User" means a motorist, transit user, pedestrian or bicyclist;

(4) "Bikeway" means any road, street, path or way which in some manner is specifically designated for bicycle travel, including the provision of a bicycle lane, regardless of whether such facility is designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or is to be shared with other modes of transportation; and

(5) "Total project cost" means the cost of the entire corridor plan project.

(b) Accommodations for all users shall be a routine part of the planning, design, construction and operating activities of all highways, roads and streets in this state.
(c) From funds received by the department or any municipality for the construction, resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation or relocation of highways, roads or streets, a reasonable amount shall be expended to provide facilities for all users including, but not limited to, bikeways and sidewalks with appropriate curb cuts and ramps, provided in no event shall less than one per cent of the total amount of funds received in any fiscal year be so expended. The department or municipality shall take future transit expansion plans into account where appropriate.

(d) The provision of facilities pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall not be required if the Commissioner of Transportation or the municipal project manager demonstrates and documents with respect to a highway, road or street that: (1) Nonmotorized usage is prohibited; (2) there is a demonstrated absence of need; or (3) the accommodation of all users would be excessively expensive to the total project cost.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2009) (a) There is established a Connecticut Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board which shall be within the Department of Transportation for administrative purposes only.

(b) The board shall consist of eleven members appointed as follows: The Governor shall appoint five members and the speaker of the House of Representatives, the president pro tempore of the Senate, the majority leader of the House of Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the House of Representatives and the minority leader of the Senate shall each appoint one member. The members shall be electors of the state and have a background and interest in issues pertaining to walking and bicycling, one of whom shall be a representative of an organization interested in the promotion of bicycling, one of whom shall be a representative of an organization interested in the promotion of walking, one of whom shall be an owner or manager of a business engaged in the sale or repair of bicycles, one of whom shall be a representative of visually-impaired persons, one of...
whom shall be a representative of mobility-impaired persons, one of
whom shall be a representative of transit workers and one of whom
shall be a person sixty years of age or older.

(c) All members shall serve for a term of four years, except that of
the members first appointed by the Governor, three members shall
serve for an initial term of two years and two members shall serve for
an initial term of three years. Any vacancy in the membership of the
board shall be filled by the appointing authority for the unexpired
term. Members shall receive no compensation for their services.

(d) The board shall, at its first meeting and annually thereafter,
select a chairperson from among its members. The board shall meet at
least once during each calendar quarter and at such other times as the
chairperson deems necessary.

(e) The duties of the board shall include, but not be limited to,
promoting programs and facilities for bicycles and pedestrians in this
state, and advising appropriate agencies of the state on policies,
programs and facilities for bicycles and pedestrians.

(f) The board may apply for and accept grants, gifts and bequests of
funds from other states, federal and interstate agencies, independent
authorities and private firms, individuals and foundations, for the
purpose of carrying out its responsibilities.

(g) The Department of Transportation shall assist the board in
carrying out its responsibilities by making available department
reports and records related to the board's responsibilities, printing the
board's annual report or distributing copies thereof as may be required
and mailing notices of the board's meetings as may be required.

(h) Not later than January 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, the board
shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general
statutes, to the Governor, the Commissioner of Transportation and the
joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance
of matters relating to transportation on (1) the progress made by state
agencies in improving the environment for bicycling and walking in
this state, (2) recommendations for improvements to state policies and
procedures related to bicycling and walking, and (3) specific actions
taken by the Department of Transportation in the preceding year that
affect the bicycle and pedestrian environment.

Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2009) (a) On and after January 1, 2010,
the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall issue, within existing
budgetary resources, Share the Road commemorative number plates of
a design to enhance public awareness of the rights and responsibilities
of both motorists and bicyclists while jointly using the highways of
this state. The design shall be determined by agreement between the
Department of Transportation and the Commissioner of Motor
Vehicles, in consultation with an organization advocating on behalf of
bicyclists. No use shall be made of such plates except as official
registration marker plates.

(b) A fee of sixty dollars shall be charged for Share the Road
commemorative number plates, in addition to the regular fee or fees
prescribed for the registration of a motor vehicle. Fifteen dollars of
such fee shall be deposited in an account controlled by the Department
of Motor Vehicles to be used for the cost of producing, issuing,
renewing and replacing such number plates and forty-five dollars of
such fee shall be deposited in the account established under subsection
(d) of this section. No additional fee shall be charged in connection
with the renewal of such number plates. No transfer fee shall be
charged for transfer of an existing registration to or from a registration
with Share the Road commemorative number plates. Such number
plates shall have letters and numbers selected by the Commissioner of
Motor Vehicles. The commissioner may establish a higher fee for: (1)
Number plates that contain the numbers and letters from a previously
issued number plate; (2) number plates that contain letters in place of
numbers as authorized by section 14-49 of the general statutes, in
addition to the fee or fees prescribed for registration under said
section; and (3) number plates that are low number plates issued in
accordance with section 14-160 of the general statutes, in addition to
the fee or fees prescribed for registration under said section. All fees
established and collected pursuant to this section, except the amount
deposited in the account controlled by the department, shall be
deposited in the Share the Road account established under subsection
(d) of this section.

(c) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the
Commissioner of Transportation, may adopt regulations, in
accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to
establish standards and procedures for the issuance, renewal and
replacement of Share the Road commemorative number plates.

(d) There is established a Share the Road account which shall be a
separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account
shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the
account. The funds in the account shall be expended by the
Department of Transportation to enhance public awareness of the
rights and responsibilities of bicyclists and motorists while jointly
using the highways of this state and to promote bicycle use and safety
in this state. The Commissioner of Transportation may receive private
donations to said account and any such receipts shall be deposited in
said account.

(e) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may provide for the
reproduction and marketing of the Share the Road commemorative
number plate image for use on clothing, recreational equipment,
posters, mementoes or other products or programs deemed by the
commissioner to be suitable as a means of supporting the
Share the Road account established under subsection (d) of this
section. Any moneys received by the commissioner from such
marketing shall be deposited in said account.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:
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**APP**  
Joint Favorable Subst.