AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR CAUSING HARM TO A VULNERABLE USER OF A PUBLIC WAY.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2012) (a) As used in subsection (b) of this section, (1) "vulnerable user" means: (A) A pedestrian; (B) a highway worker; (C) a person riding or driving an animal; (D) a person riding a bicycle; (E) a person using a skateboard, roller skates or inline skates; (F) a person operating or riding on an agricultural tractor; and (G) a person using a wheelchair or motorized chair, and (2) "public way" includes any state or other public highway, road, street, avenue, alley, driveway, parkway or place, under the control of the state or any political subdivision of the state, dedicated, appropriated or opened to public travel or other use.

(b) Any person operating a motor vehicle on a public way who fails to exercise reasonable care and causes the serious physical injury or death of a vulnerable user of a public way shall be required to attend a motor vehicle operator's retraining program and to perform community service and may be fined not more than five thousand dollars.
This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

| Section 1 | October 1, 2012 | New section |

**Statement of Purpose:**
To provide a penalty for any person who causes harm to a vulnerable user of a public way.

*Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.*