



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 502**

January Session, 2015



**AN ACT CONCERNING BICYCLE SAFETY.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 14-234 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

3 (a) The Office of the State Traffic Administration may determine  
4 those portions of any state highway where overtaking and passing or  
5 driving to the left of the highway would be especially hazardous and  
6 may by appropriate signs or markings on the highway indicate the  
7 beginning and end of such zones. A local traffic authority, as defined  
8 in section 14-297, may, in accordance with standards approved by the  
9 Office of the State Traffic Administration, determine and designate  
10 such no-passing zones on highways under its jurisdiction. When such  
11 signs or markings are in place and clearly visible to an ordinarily  
12 observant person, each driver of a vehicle shall obey the directions  
13 thereof. [Violation] Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section,  
14 a violation of the provisions of this section shall be an infraction.

15 (b) The driver of a vehicle may drive to the left of the centerline on a  
16 highway in a marked no-passing zone when such driver is overtaking  
17 and passing on the right side a pedestrian, bicycle, moped or scooter,  
18 provided such overtaking and passing may be conducted safely, with  
19 adequate sight distance and without interfering with oncoming traffic

20 or endangering other vehicles and pedestrians on the highway.

21 Sec. 2. Section 14-251 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
22 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

23 No vehicle shall be permitted to remain stationary within ten feet of  
24 any fire hydrant, or upon the traveled portion of any highway except  
25 upon the right-hand side of such highway in the direction in which  
26 such vehicle is headed; and, if such highway is curbed, such vehicle  
27 shall be so placed that its right-hand wheels, when stationary, shall,  
28 when safety will permit, be within a distance of twelve inches from the  
29 curb, except, if a bikeway, as defined in section 13a-153f, or a buffer  
30 area for such bikeway is in place between the parking lane and the  
31 curb, such vehicle shall be so placed that its right-hand wheels, when  
32 stationary, shall, when safety will permit, be not less than twelve  
33 inches from the edge of such bikeway or buffer area. No vehicle shall  
34 be permitted to remain parked within twenty-five feet of an  
35 intersection or a marked crosswalk thereat, or within twenty-five feet  
36 of a stop sign caused to be erected by the traffic authority in  
37 accordance with the provisions of section 14-301. No vehicle shall be  
38 permitted to remain stationary upon the traveled portion of any  
39 highway at any curve or turn or at the top of any grade where a clear  
40 view of such vehicle may not be had from a distance of at least one  
41 hundred and fifty feet in either direction. The Commissioner of  
42 Transportation may post signs upon any highway at any place where  
43 the keeping of a vehicle stationary is dangerous to traffic, and the  
44 keeping of any vehicle stationary contrary to the directions of such  
45 signs shall be a violation of this section. No vehicle shall be permitted  
46 to remain stationary upon the traveled portion of any highway within  
47 fifty feet of the point where another vehicle, which had previously  
48 stopped, continues to remain stationary on the opposite side of the  
49 traveled portion of the same highway. No vehicle shall be permitted to  
50 remain stationary within the limits of a public highway in such a  
51 manner as to constitute a traffic hazard or obstruct the free movement  
52 of traffic thereon, provided a vehicle which has become disabled to

53 such an extent that it is impossible or impracticable to remove it may  
54 be permitted to so remain for a reasonable time for the purpose of  
55 making repairs thereto or of obtaining sufficient assistance to remove  
56 it. Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to emergency  
57 vehicles and to maintenance vehicles displaying flashing lights or to  
58 prohibit a vehicle from stopping, or being held stationary by any  
59 officer, in an emergency to avoid accident or to give a right-of-way to  
60 any vehicle or pedestrian as provided in this chapter, or from stopping  
61 on any highway within the limits of an incorporated city, town or  
62 borough where the parking of vehicles is regulated by local  
63 ordinances. Violation of any provision of this section shall be an  
64 infraction.

65 Sec. 3. Section 14-286b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
66 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

67 (a) [Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall ride as  
68 near to the right side of the roadway as practicable, except when (1)  
69 making a left turn pursuant to subsection (b) of section 14-241, (2)  
70 overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same  
71 direction, (3) overtaking and passing pedestrians, parked vehicles,  
72 animals or obstructions on the right side of the highway, and (4) when  
73 the right side of the highway is closed to traffic while under  
74 construction or repair.] Any person operating a bicycle upon a  
75 roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic shall ride as close to  
76 the right side of the roadway as is safe, as judged by the bicyclist,  
77 except when:

78 (1) Overtaking or passing another vehicle proceeding in the same  
79 direction;

80 (2) Preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road  
81 or driveway;

82 (3) Reasonably necessary to avoid conditions, including, but not  
83 limited to, fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles,

84 bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards or lanes that are too  
85 narrow for a bicycle and a motor vehicle to travel safely side by side  
86 within such lanes;

87 (4) Approaching an intersection where right turns are permitted and  
88 there is a dedicated right turn lane, in which case a bicyclist may ride  
89 on the left-hand side of such dedicated lane, even if the bicyclist does  
90 not intend to turn right;

91 (5) Riding on a roadway designated for one-way traffic, when the  
92 bicyclist may ride as near to the left-hand curb or edge of such  
93 roadway as judged safe by the bicyclist; or

94 (6) Riding on parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of  
95 bicycles, including, but not limited to, contra-flow bicycle lanes, left-  
96 handed cycle tracks or bicycle lanes on one-way streets and two-way  
97 cycle tracks or bicycle lanes.

98 (b) Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway shall not ride more than  
99 two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the  
100 exclusive use of bicycles. Persons riding two abreast, as provided in  
101 this subsection, shall not impede the normal and reasonable movement  
102 of traffic, and, on a laned roadway, shall ride within a single lane.

103 (c) No person riding upon any bicycle, motor-driven cycle, roller  
104 skates, skis, sled, skateboard, coaster, toy vehicle or any other vehicle  
105 not designed or intended to be towed shall attach the same or such  
106 person to any vehicle moving or about to move on a public roadway  
107 nor shall the operator of such vehicle knowingly permit any person  
108 riding a bicycle, motor-driven cycle, roller skates, skis, skateboard,  
109 coaster, sled, toy vehicle or any other vehicle not designed or intended  
110 to be towed to attach the same or such person to such vehicle so  
111 operated or about to be operated, provided any person operating a  
112 bicycle solely by foot or hand power may attach a bicycle trailer or  
113 semitrailer thereto, provided such trailer or semitrailer is designed for  
114 such attachment.

115 (d) No person operating a bicycle, as defined by section 14-286,  
 116 upon a roadway, path or part of roadway set aside for exclusive use of  
 117 bicycles shall carry on such bicycle a passenger unless such bicycle is  
 118 equipped or designed to carry passengers, provided any person who  
 119 has attained the age of eighteen years may carry any child while such  
 120 person is operating a bicycle propelled solely by foot or hand power,  
 121 provided such child is securely attached to his person by means of a  
 122 back pack, sling or other similar device. The term "child", as used in  
 123 this subsection, means any person who has not attained the age of four  
 124 years.

125 (e) No person operating a bicycle, as defined by section 14-286, shall  
 126 carry any package, bundle or other article which prevents such person  
 127 from using both hands in the operation of such bicycle. Each person  
 128 operating such bicycle shall keep at least one hand on the handlebars  
 129 thereof when such bicycle is in motion.

130 (f) Violation of any provision of this section shall be an infraction.

131 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) The Commissioner of  
 132 Transportation, when updating design standards for roads in the state,  
 133 shall include, as appropriate, the standards contained within the  
 134 National Association of City Transportation Officials Urban Bikeway  
 135 Design Guide and the National Association of City Transportation  
 136 Officials Urban Street Design Guide.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-234
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-251
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-286b
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section

**TRA**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*