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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 1627

02/25/2021

Authored by Petersburg

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to transportation; prohibiting the use of highway user tax distribution funds

1.3 or trunk highway funds for bicycle lanes or routes; prohibiting vehicle travel lanes

1.4 from being converted into bicycle lanes; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020,

1.5 sections 160.02, by adding subdivisions; 160.262, subdivision 1; 160.264; 160.266,

1.6 by adding a subdivision; 174.75, by adding a subdivision; proposing coding for

1.7 new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 161.

1.8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.9 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 160.02, is amended by adding a subdivision

1.10 to read:

1.11 Subd. 1b. **Bicycle lane.** "Bicycle lane" means a portion of a roadway or shoulder designed

1.12 for exclusive or preferential use by persons using bicycles. Bicycle lanes are to be

1.13 distinguished from the portion of the roadway or shoulder used for motor vehicle traffic by

1.14 physical barrier, striping, marking, or other similar device.

1.15 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 160.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to

1.16 read:

1.17 Subd. 1c. **Bicycle route.** "Bicycle route" means a roadway or shoulder signed to

1.18 encourage bicycle use.

1.19 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 160.262, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.20 Subdivision 1. **Bikeways; powers and duties; design guidelines.** (a) The legislature

1.21 determines that it is in the interests of the public health, safety and welfare, to provide for

1.22 the addition of bikeways to proposed and existing public highways without converting

2.1 vehicle travel lanes into bicycle lanes or bicycle routes. The commissioner of transportation
 2.2 is authorized to plan, design, establish, and maintain bikeways on the right-of-way of any
 2.3 trunk highway. The commissioner is responsible for the design and construction of all
 2.4 bikeway projects within the right-of-way of any trunk highway. The commissioner must
 2.5 consider the development of bikeways during the planning, design, construction,
 2.6 reconstruction, or improvement of any trunk highway, or allow the establishment of such
 2.7 bikeways within trunk highway right-of-way. The commissioner must not convert vehicle
 2.8 travel lanes on the trunk highway system into a bicycle lane or bicycle route.

2.9 (b) The commissioner must maintain bikeway design guidelines consistent with the state
 2.10 transportation goals in section 174.01.

2.11 (c) The commissioner must compile and maintain a map of bikeways in the state and
 2.12 must publish and distribute the map's information at least once every two years in a form
 2.13 and manner suitable to assist persons wishing to use the bikeways.

2.14 (d) The commissioner must maintain bikeways within the limits of trunk highway
 2.15 right-of-way unless a written agreement or limited use permit provides otherwise.

2.16 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 160.264, is amended to read:

2.17 **160.264 REPLACING BIKEWAYS AND PEDESTRIAN WAYS.**

2.18 Whenever an existing bikeway, pedestrian way, or roadway used by bicycles or
 2.19 pedestrians or the sole access to such is destroyed by any new, reconstructed, or relocated
 2.20 federal, state, or local highway, the road authority responsible shall replace the destroyed
 2.21 facility or access with a comparable facility or access. Replacement is not required where
 2.22 it would be contrary to public safety or when sparsity of population, other available ways
 2.23 or other factors indicate an absence of need for such facility or access. When the road
 2.24 authority is the commissioner, the commissioner must not convert vehicle travel lanes on
 2.25 the trunk highway system into a bicycle lane or bicycle route.

2.26 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 160.266, is amended by adding a subdivision to
 2.27 read:

2.28 Subd. 1c. **Prohibition on lane conversion.** The commissioner must not convert vehicle
 2.29 travel lanes on the trunk highway system into a bicycle lane or bicycle route.

3.1 Sec. 6. **[161.0815] RESTRICTIONS ON FUNDING FOR BICYCLE LANES AND**
3.2 **ROUTES.**

3.3 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the commissioner is prohibited from spending
3.4 funds from the highway user tax distribution fund or the trunk highway fund to create,
3.5 construct, expand, mark, or maintain bicycle lanes or bicycle routes on the trunk highway
3.6 system.

3.7 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 174.75, is amended by adding a subdivision to
3.8 read:

3.9 Subd. 6. **Prohibition on lane conversion.** The complete streets policy must not allow
3.10 for the conversion of vehicle travel lanes on the trunk highway system into a bicycle lane
3.11 or bicycle route.

3.12 Sec. 8. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

3.13 This act is effective July 1, 2021, and applies to conversion of vehicle travel lanes on
3.14 the trunk highway system on or after that date.