

2011 -- H 5096

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLES

Introduced By: Representative Joseph M. McNamara

Date Introduced: January 20, 2011

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-18-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-18 entitled
2 "Pedestrians" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-18-8. Due care by drivers.** -- Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter or the
4 provisions of any local ordinance, every driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid
5 colliding with any pedestrian or any person propelling a human-powered vehicle upon any
6 roadway, shall give an audible signal when necessary, and shall exercise proper precaution upon
7 observing any child or any obviously confused, intoxicated, or incapacitated person. In addition,
8 the driver of a vehicle overtaking a bicycle or other human-powered vehicle must pass the bicycle
9 or other human-powered vehicle at a safe distance of not less than three feet (3') between the
10 vehicle and the human-powered vehicle. Violations of this section are subject to fines enumerated
11 in section 31-41.1-4.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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- 1 This act would require that motor vehicle operators who overtake a bicycle or other
- 2 human-powered vehicle do so at a safe distance of not less than three feet (3’).
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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