

2010 -- S 2706

LC02238

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLES

Introduced By: Senators Connors, Miller, DaPonte, and DiPalma

Date Introduced: March 18, 2010

Referred To: Senate 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~~ Due care by drivers --"Frank's law". – (a)

4 Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter or the provisions of any local ordinance, every  
5 driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian or any person  
6 propelling a human-powered vehicle upon any roadway, shall give an audible signal when  
7 necessary, and shall exercise proper precaution upon observing any child or any obviously  
8 confused, intoxicated, or incapacitated person. In addition, the driver of a vehicle overtaking a  
9 bicycle or other human-powered vehicle must pass the bicycle or other human-powered vehicle at  
10 a safe distance of not less than three feet (3') between the vehicle and the human-powered  
11 vehicle. In the event the driver cannot maneuver his or her vehicle three feet (3') away from the  
12 bicyclist, he or she must slow his or her vehicle to ten (10) miles per hour below the posted speed  
13 limit.

14 (b) Violations of this section are subject to a fine of eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) and/or  
15 ten (10) days of community service, and/or a suspension of his or her driver's license for ten (10)  
16 days ~~finer enumerated in section 31-41.1-4.~~

17 (c) This section shall be known as "Frank's law."

18

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

=====  
LC02238  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLES

\*\*\*

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'), or if unable to do  
3 so to slow down to ten (10) miles per hour below the posted speed limit. Violators would be  
4 subject to fines, community service and/or suspension of driver's license.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC02238  
=====