# ENROLLMENT(S)



(5)

# COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

# **NOTICE**

# D.C. LAW 11-178

# "Bicyclist Responsibility Regulation Amendment Act of 1996".

Pursuant to Section 412 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, P.L. 93-198 "the Act", the Council of the District of Columbia adopted Bill No. 11-294, on first and second readings, June 4, 1996 and July 3, 1996, respectively. Following the signature of the Mayor on July 22, 1996, pursuant to Section 404(e) of "the Act", and was assigned Act No. 11-328, and published in the August 9, 1996, edition of the D.C. Register (Vol. 43 page 4240) and transmitted to Congress on January 10, 1997 for a 30-day review, in accordance with Section 602(c)(1) of the Act.

The Council of the District of Columbia hereby gives notice that the 30-day Congressional Review Period has expired, and therefore, cites this enactment as D.C.

Law 11-178, effective April 9, 1997.

HARLENE DREW JARVIS

Chairman Pro Tempore of the Council

Dates Counted During the 30-day Congressional Review Period:

Feb.

3,4,5,6,7,10,11,12,13,24,25,26,27,28

Mar.

3,4,5,6,10,11,12,13,14,17,18,19,20,21

Apr.

7,8

### AN ACT

# D.C. ACT 11-328

# IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JULY 22, 1996

To amend Chapter 12 of Title 18 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations to clarify the rights and duties of bicyclists.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Bicyclist Responsibility Regulation Amendment Act of 1996".

Sec. 2. Chapter 12 of title 18 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations

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- (Vehicles and Traffic) (18 DCMR Chapter 12) is amended as follows:

  (a) Subsection 1200.3 is amended to read as follows:
- "1200.3 Operators of bicycles have the same rights as do operators of other vehicles and in the additional rights granted by this chapter.".
  - (b) Subsection 1201.1 is amended to read as follows:
- "1201.1 Every person who propels a vehicle by human power or who rides a bicycle on a highway shall have the same duties as any other vehicle operator under this title, except as otherwise expressly provided in this chapter, and except for those duties imposed by this title which, by their nature or wording, can have no reasonable application to a bicycle operator."
  - (c) Subsection 1201.2 is amended to read as follows:
- "1201.2 (a) A person operating a bicycle shall comply with subsection 2201.1 of this title requiring drivers to be on the right half of the roadway and shall not operate on the left facing traffic coming from the opposite direction except when authorized by that section.
- "(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection and in subsection 2202.9 of this title, any person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall travel as closely as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, or as closely as practicable to the left-hand curb or edge of the roadway when on a one-way street.
- "(c) Any person operating a bicycle may move away from the positions described in subsection (b) as necessary under any of the following situations:

- "(1) When overtaking and passing another bicycle or other vehicle proceeding in the same direction;
  - "(2) When preparing for a turn;
- "(3) When reasonably necessary to avoid conditions including, but not limited to, fixed or moving objects, parking or moving vehicles, vehicle doors that are or may open, bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, or substandard width lanes that make it unsafe to remain near the curb or edge of the roadway. For purposes of this section, a "a substandard width "lane" means a lane or other area on the roadway that is too narrow for a bicycle and an overtaking vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane. Any lane that is eleven 11 feet wide or less shall be presumed be a substandard width lane for purposes of this subsection;
  - "(4) When necessary to comply with lane use restrictions; or
  - "(5) When necessary for the bicyclist's safety.".
  - (d) Subsection 1201.3 is amended to read as follows:
- "1201.3 (a) A person operating a bicycle may overtake and pass another vehicle only under conditions which permit the movement to be made with safety.
- "(b) A person operating a bicycle may overtake and pass other vehicles on the left or right side, staying in the same lane as the overtaken vehicle, or changing to a different lane, or riding off the roadway, as necessary to pass with safety.
- "(c) If a lane is partially occupied by vehicles that are stopped, standing, or parked in that lane, a person operating a bicycle may ride in that or in the next adjacent lane used by vehicles proceedings in the same direction.".
  - (e) Subsection 1201.7 is amended as follows:
- "1201.7 Persons riding upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or part of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles. Persons riding two abreast shall not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic and, on a laned roadway, shall ride within a single lane."
- Sec. 3. Chapter 22 of title 18 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (Vehicles and Traffic) (18 DCMR chapter 22) is amended as follows:
  - (a) Section 2200.10 is amended to read as follows:
- "2200.10 No person shall drive a motor vehicle at such a slow speed as to impede or block the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or to be in compliance with the law.".
  - (b) Subsection 2214.4 is amended to read as follows:
- "2214.4 No person shall open any door of a vehicle unless it is reasonably safe to do so and can be done without interfering with moving traffic or pedestrians and with safety to such person and passengers. No person shall leave a door open on a side of a vehicle available to moving traffic for a period of time longer than necessary to receive or discharge passengers."
  - (h) Subsection 2300.2 is amended to read as follows:

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"2300.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter and of chapters 12 and 21, every operator of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrians or any person

propelling a human powered vehicle and shall give an audible signal when necessary, and shall exercise proper precaution upon observing any child or any obviously confused, incapacitated, or intoxicated person.".

Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Code § 1-233(c)(3)).

Sec. 5. This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), approval by the Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority as provided in section 203(a) of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority Act of 1995, approved April 17, 1995 (109 Stat. 116; D.C. Code § 47-392.3(a)), and a 30-day period of Congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Code § 1-233(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.

Chairman

Council of the District of Columbia

Mayor

District of Columbia

APPROVED: JUly 22, 1996



# COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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