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Senate Bill 123 (as introduced 2-9-17) Sponsor: Senator David Knezek

Committee: Judiciary

Date Completed: 9-21-17

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to require the driver of a motor vehicle overtaking a bicycle to pass at a safe distance of at least five feet from the bicycle.

The Code establishes rules governing the overtaking and passing of vehicles proceeding in the same direction. A violation is a civil infraction.

Under the bill, the driver of a vehicle overtaking a bicycle proceeding in the same direction would have to pass at a safe distance of at least five feet to the left of the bicycle and, when safely clear of the overtaken bicycle, would have to take up a position as near the right-hand edge of the main traveled portion of the highway as practicable.

Notwithstanding Section 640 (which allows the designation of no-passing zones), if it were safe to do so, the driver of a vehicle could overtake and pass the bicycle in a no-passing zone.

The bill would take effect 90 days after enactment.

MCL 257.636 Legislative Analyst: Jeff Mann

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the State and could have a small positive impact on local governments. Any increase in revenue from civil infractions would be dedicated to public libraries.

Fiscal Analyst: Ryan Bergan

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