

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 298

BY REPRESENTATIVE BALDONE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:197 and 329(B) and to enact R.S. 32:329(C), (D), (E), (F),
3 and (G), relative to bicycles and roadways; to provide relative to light requirements
4 on the rear of bicycles; to provide for installation requirements; to allow persons
5 riding bicycles upon a roadway the option of riding a bicycle on the improved
6 shoulder under certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 32:197 and 329(B) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
9 32:329(C), (D), (E), (F), and (G) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §197. Riding on roadways and bicycle paths

11 A. Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall ride as near to the
12 right side of the roadway as practicable, exercising due care when passing a standing
13 vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction.

14 B. Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway, which includes an improved
15 shoulder, may ride upon the improved shoulder.

16 ~~B.C.~~ Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway shall not ride more than two
17 abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of
18 bicycles.

19 ~~C.D.~~ Whenever a usable path for bicycles has been provided adjacent to a
20 roadway, bicycle riders shall use such path and shall not use the roadway.

21 * * *

1 §329. Bicycles; front lamps; side and rear reflectors; rear lamps

2 * * *

3 B. Every bicycle when in use at nighttime on a state highway, parish road,
4 or city street, in addition to the requirements of Subsection A of this Section, shall
5 be equipped with a lamp emitting a red flashing light or a red light on the rear of the
6 bicycle, which has sufficient candle power so that such lamp projects light from all
7 distances within one hundred feet to six hundred feet when directly in front of lawful
8 lower beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle.

9 B.C. No person shall sell or offer for sale any bicycle unless such bicycle is
10 equipped with at least one red reflector on the rear and one reflector on each side as
11 required by this Section.

12 D. After December 31, 2010, no person shall operate any bicycle at
13 nighttime on a state highway, parish road, or city street, unless such bicycle is
14 equipped with at least one lamp emitting a red flashing light or a red light on the rear
15 as required by Subsection B of this Section.

16 E.(1) Any person who violates Subsection B of this Section subsequent to
17 December 31, 2010, shall be given a warning ticket only.

18 F. This Section shall not apply to bicycles while engaged in sanctioned
19 competition races.

20 G. The provisions of Subsection B of this Section shall not apply to any child
21 under the age of ten years old, who may operate a bicycle.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____