

SENATE BILL NO. 183—SENATOR HARDY

MARCH 8, 2021

Referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to transportation. (BDR 43-620)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to transportation; increasing the speed limit for motor vehicles operating in lanes designated for high-occupancy vehicles under certain circumstances; prohibiting persons riding bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters from riding more than two abreast upon the shoulder of a roadway; prohibiting persons from riding bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters on a roadway with a posted speed limit of 65 miles per hour or more; providing exceptions under certain circumstances and for certain special events; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law authorizes the Department of Transportation to designate a lane on
2 a highway for the preferential or exclusive use of high-occupancy vehicles. The
3 Department is required to place and maintain signs and other official traffic-control
4 devices that: (1) identify the lane as designated for the use of high-occupancy
5 vehicles; and (2) advise operators of the required conditions for using the lane.
6 (NRS 484A.460) **Section 1** of this bill requires the Department to: (1) establish a
7 speed limit for lanes designated for high-occupancy vehicles that is not more than 5
8 miles per hour over the speed limit otherwise posted for the highway, not to exceed
9 80 miles per hour; and (2) place and maintain signs and other traffic-control devices
10 that advise the operators of vehicles traveling in the designated high-occupancy
11 vehicle lane of the lane’s speed limit.

12 Existing law requires a person operating a bicycle, electric bicycle or electric
13 scooter to comply with certain rules of the road, including not riding more than two
14 abreast upon a roadway except on paths or parts of the roadway set aside for the
15 exclusive use of bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters. (NRS 484B.777)
16 **Section 2** of this bill prohibits persons from riding bicycles, electric bicycles or
17 electric scooters more than two abreast upon the shoulder of a roadway with a



18 posted speed limit of 65 miles per hour or more except on paths or parts of the
19 shoulder set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles, electric bicycles and electric
20 scooters. **Section 2** prohibits persons from riding bicycles, electric bicycles or
21 electric scooters upon a roadway with a posted speed limit of 65 miles per hour or
22 more with the following exceptions: (1) when preparing to turn left; (2) while in the
23 performance of a public work or other official duties as an employee of this State or
24 a political subdivision thereof; (3) when doing so would not be safe; and (4) when
25 using an opening provided for the purpose of accessing a path or part of a roadway
26 set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters.
27 **Section 2** also authorizes participants in a special event to ride bicycles, electric
28 bicycles or electric scooters to ride upon a roadway with a posted speed limit of 65
29 miles per hour or more if: (1) the event organizers have obtained the appropriate
30 permits; (2) the event organizers use safety vehicles to protect the participants from
31 traffic; and (3) the participants in the event do not ride more than two abreast.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 484A.460 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 484A.460 1. The Department of Transportation, with respect
4 to highways under its jurisdiction, may designate a lane on a
5 highway for the preferential or exclusive use of high-occupancy
6 vehicles.

7 2. The Department of Transportation shall, for each lane that it
8 designates pursuant to this section for the use of high-occupancy
9 vehicles:

10 (a) Determine the conditions for use of the lane, including,
11 without limitation:

- 12 (1) The number of occupants required per vehicle; and
13 (2) The hours of the day that the use of the lane is restricted.

14 (b) *Establish a speed limit that is not more than 5 miles per*
15 *hour over the speed limit otherwise posted for the highway, not to*
16 *exceed 80 miles per hour.*

17 (c) Place and maintain signs and other official traffic-control
18 devices that:

19 (1) Identify the lane as designated for the use of high-
20 occupancy vehicles ~~§~~ and *the speed limit for the lane established*
21 *pursuant to paragraph (b); and*

22 (2) Advise operators of vehicles of the required conditions
23 for the use of the lane.

24 3. The Department of Transportation may adopt regulations
25 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

26 4. As used in this section, "high-occupancy vehicle" means:

- 27 (a) A vehicle that is transporting more than one person;
28 (b) A motorcycle, regardless of the number of passengers;
29 (c) A bus, regardless of the number of passengers; and



1 (d) Any other vehicle designated by regulation.

2 **Sec. 2.** NRS 484B.777 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 484B.777 1. Every person operating a bicycle, an electric
4 bicycle or an electric scooter upon a roadway shall, except:

5 (a) When traveling at a lawful rate of speed commensurate with
6 the speed of any nearby traffic;

7 (b) When preparing to turn left; or

8 (c) When doing so would not be safe,

9 ➔ ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable,
10 exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one
11 proceeding in the same direction.

12 2. Persons riding bicycles, electric bicycles or electric scooters
13 upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths
14 or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles,
15 electric bicycles and electric scooters.

16 3. *Persons riding bicycles, electric bicycles or electric scooters*
17 *upon the shoulder of a roadway with a posted speed limit of 65*
18 *miles per hour or more, where permitted, shall not ride more than*
19 *two abreast except on paths or parts of the shoulder set aside for*
20 *the exclusive use of bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters.*

21 4. *Except as otherwise provided in subsections 5 and 6,*
22 *persons riding bicycles, electric bicycles or electric scooters shall*
23 *not ride upon a roadway with a posted speed limit of 65 miles per*
24 *hour or more.*

25 5. *The provisions of subsection 4 do not apply to a person*
26 *riding a bicycle, electric bicycle or electric scooter:*

27 (a) *When preparing to turn left.*

28 (b) *While in the performance of a public work or other official*
29 *duties as an employee of this State or a political subdivision*
30 *thereof.*

31 (c) *When doing so would not be safe.*

32 (d) *When using an opening provided for the purpose of*
33 *accessing a path or part of a roadway set aside for the exclusive*
34 *use of bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters.*

35 6. *The provisions of subsection 4 do not apply to participants*
36 *riding bicycles, electric bicycles or electric scooters as part of a*
37 *special event if:*

38 (a) *The event organizers have obtained all appropriate permits*
39 *from the Department of Transportation, the Nevada Highway*
40 *Patrol and any local governmental entity, if applicable;*

41 (b) *The event organizers have prominently-marked safety*
42 *vehicles in front of and behind the participants to protect the*
43 *participants from traffic approaching from either the front or the*
44 *rear; and*



1 (c) *The participants in the event do not ride more than two*
2 *abreast.*

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