

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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SENATE BILL 955  
Judiciary I Committee Substitute Adopted 5/11/09  
Third Edition Engrossed 5/12/09  
PROPOSED HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S955-PCS75275-RW-53

Short Title: Bicycle Lights at Night.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 26, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT BICYCLES HAVE VISIBLE LIGHTS ON THE FRONT  
3 AND REAR OF THE BICYCLE, OR ON THE PERSON OPERATING THE BICYCLE,  
4 WHEN OPERATED DURING THE PERIOD FROM SUNSET TO SUNRISE ON A  
5 STREET, HIGHWAY, OR PUBLIC VEHICULAR AREA, AND TO REQUIRE THE  
6 REPORT OF A CRASH INVOLVING A MOTOR VEHICLE AND A BICYCLE WHERE  
7 THE TOTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE EXCEEDS FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-129(e) reads as rewritten:

10 "(e) Lamps on Bicycles. – Every bicycle shall be equipped ~~with~~on the bicycle, or on the  
11 person operating the bicycle, a lighted lamp on the front thereof, visible under normal  
12 atmospheric conditions from a distance of at least 300 feet in front of such bicycle, and shall  
13 also be equipped ~~with a reflex mirror or~~on the bicycle, or on the person operating the bicycle, a  
14 lamp on the rear, exhibiting a red light visible under like conditions from a distance of at least  
15 200 feet to the rear of such bicycle, when ~~used at night~~in operation during the period from  
16 sunset to sunrise on a street, highway, or public vehicular area."

17 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 20-4.01(33b) reads as rewritten:

18 "(33b) Reportable Crash. – A crash involving a motor vehicle that results in one or  
19 more of the following:

- 20 a. Death or injury of a human being.  
21 b. Total property damage of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, or  
22 property damage of any amount to a vehicle seized pursuant to G. S.  
23 20-28.3.  
24 c. Total property damage of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or more and  
25 involves a bicycle as defined in G.S. 20-171.8(1)."

26 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2009, and applies to  
27 offenses committed on or after that date.



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