

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
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/18/09
PROPOSED HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S955-PCS35378-RR-64

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

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

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

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

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



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