

## CHAPTER 559

## S.B. No. 738

## AN ACT

relating to the operation of motorcycles and bicycles on highways.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

**SECTION 1. DEFINITION.** In this Act, "motorcycle" has the meaning assigned by Section 1, Chapter 88, General Laws, Acts of the 41st Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 1929 (Article 6675a-1 et seq., Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), and its subsequent amendments and includes a motorcycle equipped with a sidecar.

**SECTION 2. TOLLS FOR MOTORCYCLES.** No person or entity, including the state or a political subdivision of this state, that operates a toll road, toll bridge, or turnpike may impose a toll for the operation of a motorcycle on the toll road, toll bridge, or turnpike that is greater than the toll imposed for the operation of a passenger car on the toll road, toll bridge, or turnpike.

**SECTION 3. USE OF PREFERENTIAL LANES.** (a) In this section, "preferential lane" means a traffic lane on a street or highway where motor vehicle usage is limited to buses, vehicles occupied by a minimum number of persons, or car pool vehicles.

(b) A motorcycle may be operated in a preferential lane that has not been otherwise closed to all vehicular traffic.

**SECTION 4. MOTORCYCLE AND BICYCLE AWARENESS.** (a) The Department of Public Safety shall include motorcycle and bicycle awareness information in any edition of the Texas driver's handbook published after the department exhausts its current supply of the handbook.

(b) The Central Education Agency shall adopt rules to require that after January 1, 1994, information relating to motorcycle and bicycle awareness be included in the curriculum of any driver education course or driving safety course that is governed by the agency.

(c) The Central Education Agency shall consult with the Department of Public Safety in developing rules under Subsection (b) of this section.

**SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act takes effect September 1, 1993.

**SECTION 6. EMERGENCY.** The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed the Senate on April 30, 1993: Yeas 28, Nays 0; the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 23, 1993, by a viva-voce vote; passed the House, with amendment, on May 21, 1993, by a non-record vote.

Approved June 11, 1993.

Effective Sept. 1, 1993.