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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Griego **ORIGINAL DATE** 02/21/11 **HB** _____
LAST UPDATED _____

SHORT TITLE Bicycle Operation at Intersections Regulation **SB** 382

ANALYST Soderquist

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY11	FY12		
NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Conflicts with HB 259

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Department of Transportation
Department of Public Safety

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 382 would add an exception to the motor vehicle code with respect to bicycles stopping at stop signs or red lights.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact of this legislation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Under current statute, bicyclists must observe the motor vehicle requirement to come to a complete stop at stop signs or red lights before proceeding into the intersection.

66-7-345C NMSA 1978 states:

Except when directed to proceed by a police officer or traffic-control signal, every driver of a vehicle approaching a stop intersection indicated by a stop sign shall stop before

entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, in the event there is no crosswalk, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway before entering the intersection.

Senate Bill 382 would permit bicyclists at stop signs to “slow down and, if required for safety, stop before entering the intersection. After slowing to a reasonable speed or stopping, the person shall yield the right of way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching the intersection on another highway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time the person would be moving across or within the intersection. A person after slowing to a reasonable speed and yielding the right of way if required may cautiously make a turn or proceed through the intersection without stopping.”

A similar provision is made in the bill for a bicyclist making a right hand turn onto a two way highway or a left hand turn onto a one way highway at a red traffic control signal.

CONFLICTS WITH

HB 259, which has the same legislative intent but establishes different statutory language.

RS/bym:svb