



HOUSE BILL 232: Study/Update Bicycle Safety Laws

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Transportation	Date:	March 31, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. Whitmire, Shepard, Jeter	Prepared by:	Wendy Graf Ray
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H232-CSSU-7		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *The Proposed Committee Substitute for House Bill 232 would direct the Department of Transportation to convene a working group to study bicycle safety laws and recommend changes that would better ensure the safety of cyclists and motorists. The Department would be required to report its findings by December 31, 2015.*

CURRENT LAW: The Department of Transportation's Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation is a comprehensive State program that seeks to integrate bicycle and pedestrian safety, mobility, and accessibility into the overall transportation program.

Under current law, a bicycle has the legal status of a vehicle and may be operated on State highways. Bicycles have the same rights and responsibilities as motor vehicles and must comply with the rules of the road.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS for House Bill 232 would direct the Department of Transportation to study issues related to bicycle safety laws in North Carolina. The Department would be required to convene a working group of parties who have knowledge and interest in bicycle safety to conduct the study. The Department would be required to report its findings and recommendations, including any legislative proposals, to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee on or before December 31, 2015.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would be effective when it becomes law.

