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Kane
2/18/11

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 57()

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES SEATON, Gruenberg

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act authorizing municipalities and nonprofit organizations to sponsor a program to**
2 **encourage the safe use of bicycles as a mode of transportation and to educate the public**
3 **regarding the safe use of bicycles, and amending the duties of the Department of**
4 **Transportation and Public Facilities to include administration of state funds**
5 **appropriated for those purposes."**

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

7 *** Section 1.** AS 29.55 is amended by adding a new section to read:

8 **Article 2. Safe Bicycle Ridership.**

9 **Sec. 29.55.100. Safe bicycle ridership.** (a) To encourage the safe use of
10 bicycles as a mode of transportation, the governing body of a municipality may
11 establish a program within the municipality to

12 (1) encourage the safe use, distribution, and maintenance of bicycles,
13 bicycle helmets, bicycle facilities, and bicycle trailers; and

1 (2) educate the public on the safe use of bicycles and traffic laws
2 relating to bicycles and motor vehicles.

3 (b) The municipality may apply for a grant under AS 44.42.150 to receive
4 funds

5 (1) for the purchase, maintenance, and repair of bicycles, bicycle
6 helmets, bicycle facilities, and bicycle trailers by municipal residents; and

7 (2) to establish safety and education programs described in (a)(2) of
8 this section.

9 * **Sec. 2.** AS 44.42 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 **Article 1A. Program to Encourage Safe Bicycle Ridership.**

11 **Sec. 44.42.150. Grant program to encourage safe bicycle ridership.** (a) To
12 encourage the regular and safe use of bicycles and bicycling as a mode of
13 transportation, a grant program is established in the department to allow municipalities
14 and nonprofit organizations in the state to apply for financial assistance to establish
15 programs for

16 (1) the purchase, maintenance, and repair of bicycles, bicycle helmets,
17 bicycle facilities, and bicycle trailers by residents of the community where the grantee
18 is located;

19 (2) educating the public on the safe use of bicycles and traffic laws
20 relating to bicycles and motor vehicles.

21 (b) The department shall develop regulations establishing criteria for issuing
22 grants to municipalities and nonprofit organizations for the program, giving priority
23 for receiving grants to municipalities and nonprofit organizations that actively
24 encourage safe bicycling as a mode of transportation.

25 (c) The commissioner shall appoint an administrator of the program. The
26 administrator shall

27 (1) educate communities and nonprofit organizations about the
28 program and the grant requirements;

29 (2) receive and evaluate grant applications;

30 (3) from money in the fund described in (d) of this section, award
31 grants to qualified applicants.

1 (d) A fund to encourage safe bicycle ridership is established in the department.

2 The Department of Revenue is the fiduciary of the fund and may invest money in the
3 fund under AS 37.10.071. The fund consists of appropriations by the legislature of

4 (1) money to provide grants for the program;

5 (2) gifts, bequests, contributions from other sources, and federal
6 money; and

7 (3) interest earned on the fund balance.

8 (e) In this section, "program" means the grant program to encourage the
9 regular and safe use of bicycles and bicycling as a mode of transportation, as described
10 in this section.

11 * **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
12 read:

13 PROGRAM SURVEY. Not later than

14 (1) December 31, 2012, the Department of Transportation and Public
15 Facilities shall mail a survey to all Alaska residents who received a bicycle or bicycle trailer
16 under the program established in AS 44.42.150, added by sec. 2 of this Act, to evaluate the
17 effectiveness of that program;

18 (2) December 31, 2014, the department shall deliver a report to the legislature
19 with an evaluation of the program to encourage safe bicycle ridership and recommendations
20 for the program.