

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 57(TRA)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/30/11

Referred: Finance

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.