

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATORS MOODY AND COOPER

2 SENATE BILL NO. 49

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act to protect blind pedestrians on pub-
7 lic streets and highways; restricting the use
8 of certain colored canes by other pedes-
9 trians; and providing for penalties for
10 violations; repealing Chap. 9, SLA 1953."

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

12 Section 1. It is unlawful for any person, unless totally or
13 partially blind, while on any public street or highway, to carry
14 in a raised or extended position a cane or walking stick which
15 is metallic or white in color or white tipped with red.

16 Sec. 2. Whenever a totally or partially blind pedestrian is
17 crossing or attempting to cross a public street or highway at an
18 intersection or crosswalk, guided by a guide dog or carrying in a
19 raised or extended position a cane or walking stick which is
20 metallic or white in color or white tipped with red, the driver
21 of every vehicle approaching the said intersection or crosswalk
22 shall take such precautions as may be necessary to avoid injuring
23 or endangering such pedestrian, and if injury or danger to such
24 pedestrian can be avoided only by bringing his vehicle to a full
25 stop, he shall bring his said vehicle to a full stop.

26 Sec. 3. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed to
27 deprive any totally or partially blind person, not carrying such
28 a cane or walking stick or not being guided by a dog, of the rights
29 and privileges conferred by law upon pedestrians crossing streets

1 or highways; nor shall the failure of such totally or partially
2 blind person to carry a cane or walking stick or to be guided by
3 a guide dog upon the streets, highways or sidewalks of this State
4 be held to constitute nor be evidence of contributory negligence.

5 Sec. 4. Any person who violates any provision of this Act
6 shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine not
7 exceeding twenty-five dollars (\$25) and costs of prosecution,
8 and in default of payment thereof shall undergo imprisonment not
9 exceeding ten (10) days.

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