

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 2012

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 29, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2488

Introduced by Assembly Member Williams

February 24, 2012

An act to add Section 35400.9 to the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2488, as amended, Williams. ~~Vehicle length limitation. Vehicles:~~ *buses: length limitations.*

Existing law imposes a 40-foot limitation on the length of vehicles that may be operated on the highways, with specified exemptions. Existing law exempts from this limitation an articulated bus or trolley and a bus, except a schoolbus, that is operated by a public agency or passenger stage corporation that is used in a transit system if it is equipped with a folding device attached to the front of the vehicle that is designed and used exclusively for transporting bicycles, does not materially affect efficiency or visibility of vehicle safety equipment, and does not extend more than 36 inches from the front of the body of the bus or trolley when fully deployed. In addition, existing law prohibits a bicycle that is transported on the above-described device from having the bicycle handlebars extend more than 42 inches from the front of the vehicle.

This bill would authorize ~~the Gold Coast Transit District (GCT)~~ to install folding devices attached to the front of its buses that are designed and used exclusively for transporting bicycles if the use of the device

meets certain requirements, including, but not limited to, that the device does not extend more than 40 inches from the front of the bus when fully deployed, and that the handlebars of the bicycles being transported do not extend more than 46 inches from the front of the bus. ~~If the Gold Coast Transit District~~ *The bill would require GCT, if it installs the bicycle racks, the bill would require the district to report to the Assembly Committee on Transportation and the Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing on or before December 31, 2017, regarding safety issues and mobility improvements.*

~~This~~

The bill would also require the district GCT, prior to installing a folding device on a bus that is 45 feet in length, to establish a route review committee, as specified, in order to determine, by unanimous vote of the voting members of the committee, which routes proposed by the district GCT are suitable for the safe operation of a 45-foot bus that is equipped with a front-mounted bicycle rack. The bill would require the committee’s initial review to include a field review of the proposed routes.

The bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 35400.9 is added to the Vehicle Code,
2 to read:
3 35400.9. (a) Notwithstanding Section 35400, ~~the Gold Coast~~
4 ~~Transit District (GCT), created pursuant to Part 15 (commencing~~
5 ~~with Section 103000) of Division 10 of the Public Utilities Code~~
6 *Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division*
7 *7 of Title 1 of the Government Code as a joint powers agency, may*
8 *install a folding device attached to the front of a bus that is*
9 *designed and used exclusively for transporting bicycles if all of*
10 *the following conditions are met:*
11 (1) The device does not extend more than 40 inches from the
12 front body of the bus when fully deployed.
13 (2) The device, including all bicycles transported on the device,
14 is mounted in a manner that does not materially affect efficiency
15 or visibility of vehicle safety equipment.

1 (3) The handlebars of a bicycle that is transported on a device
2 described in this subdivision do not extend more than 46 inches
3 from the front of the bus.

4 (b) (1) ~~The Gold Coast Transit District~~ *GCT* shall establish a
5 route review committee prior to the installation of the initial folding
6 device, pursuant to subdivision (a), on a bus that is 45 feet in
7 length. The purpose of the committee is to ensure the safe operation
8 of a 45-foot bus that is equipped with a front-mounted bicycle
9 rack.

10 (2) The committee established pursuant to this subdivision shall
11 perform an initial review of the routes on which ~~the district~~ *GCT*
12 proposes to operate a 45-foot bus equipped with a front-mounted
13 bicycle rack. The review shall include a field review of the
14 proposed routes. It is the intent of the Legislature that the field
15 review required under this paragraph include consultation with
16 traffic engineers from affected public agencies that have
17 jurisdiction over segments of the route or routes under review, to
18 ensure coordination with all affected state and local public road
19 agencies that may potentially be impacted due to the operation of
20 a 45-foot bus with a front-mounted bicycle rack.

21 (3) By unanimous vote of all voting members, the committee
22 shall make a determination of the routes that are suitable for the
23 safe operation of a 45-foot bus that is equipped with a
24 front-mounted bicycle rack.

25 (4) Upon any proposal to make substantive changes or additions
26 to approved routes, those changes shall be subject to review and
27 certification pursuant to paragraph (2) prior to being approved by
28 the committee.

29 (5) The members of the committee shall be selected not more
30 than 30 days after receipt of the ~~district~~ *GCT* proposal to equip a
31 45-foot bus with a front-mounted bicycle rack and shall be
32 comprised of the following members:

33 (A) One member from ~~the district~~ *GCT* who shall be appointed
34 by ~~the district's~~ *GCT's* general manager and who shall be a voting
35 member of the committee.

36 (B) One member who is a traffic engineer selected by the
37 governing board of ~~the district~~ *GCT* and who shall be a voting
38 member of the committee.

39 (C) One member appointed by the labor organization that is the
40 exclusive representative of the busdrivers of ~~the district~~ *GCT*. If

1 there is no exclusive representative of the busdrivers, a busdriver
2 member shall be chosen by a majority vote of the busdrivers
3 employed by ~~the district~~ *GCT*. This member shall be a voting
4 member of the committee.

5 (D) One member appointed by the governing board of ~~the district~~
6 *GCT* who shall be a representative of the bicycling community
7 and who shall reside ~~in the district~~ *within the area of GCT's*
8 *jurisdiction*. This member shall be a nonvoting member of the
9 committee.

10 (c) If a folding device is installed pursuant to subdivision (a),
11 ~~the Gold Coast Transit District~~ *GCT* shall submit a report in
12 compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code to the
13 Assembly Committee on Transportation and the Senate Committee
14 on Transportation and Housing on or before December 31, 2017.
15 The report shall include a summary of any *vehicular or traffic*
16 incidents where the size of the folding devices was a factor, and
17 a summary of the mobility improvements *that* these folding devices
18 provide.

19 SEC. 2. Due to the unique circumstances of a large number of
20 bicycle riders using buses operated by ~~the Gold Coast Transit~~
21 ~~District~~, and the need to determine whether there are safety
22 considerations in having 40-inch bicycle racks on the front of its
23 buses, it is necessary that, and the Legislature finds and declares
24 that, a general statute cannot be made applicable within the
25 meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution.