

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 30, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 15, 2009

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 4, 2009

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 16, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1464

Introduced by Assembly Member Smyth
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Chesbro)
(Coauthors: Senators DeSaulnier, Pavley, and Wolk)

February 27, 2009

An act to add Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 889) to Chapter 8 of Division 1 of the Streets and Highways Code, relating to transportation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1464, as amended, Smyth. Transportation: California Bicycle Routes of ~~State~~ *National, State, or Regional Significance Act*.

Existing law requires the Department of Transportation, in cooperation with county and city governments, to establish minimum safety design criteria for the planning and construction of bikeways and roadways where bicycle travel is permitted.

This bill would enact the California Bicycle Routes of ~~State~~ *National, State, or Regional Significance Act*, which would authorize the department to establish a process for identifying and promoting bicycle routes of national, state, or regional significance, as specified. The bill would authorize the department to form an advisory committee to help implement the process for identifying and promoting these bicycle

routes. The bill would authorize the department to establish a process for organizations, including, but not limited to, local bicycle organizations, private entities, or local or state governmental entities to nominate a route for inclusion in the system of bicycle routes of national, state, or regional significance. The bill would authorize the department to install bicycle route signs identifying these bicycle routes, as specified. The bill would provide that applicants or nominating entities may pay the cost for bicycle route signs, as determined by the department.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Bicycle-related transactions resulted in nearly \$1.5 billion
- 4 in sales in California last year, creating and sustaining jobs and
- 5 generating tax revenues to support state and local economies.
- 6 (b) Cycling not only results in economic benefits to the state
- 7 but health benefits to cyclists as well, providing California residents
- 8 with a low-impact alternative to other fitness and recreational
- 9 pursuits.
- 10 (c) Cycling can play an important part in helping California
- 11 meet its carbon reduction goals.
- 12 (d) Cycling tourism is a growing industry and California's mild
- 13 weather and diversity of topography and landscape, including the
- 14 wine country, the coast, the inland valleys, and the Sierra Nevada,
- 15 provide California with unique attributes that can attract a large
- 16 share of this tourism industry.
- 17 (e) Many states have already invested considerable resources
- 18 to attract cycling tourism and Californians have demonstrated their
- 19 interest in cycling as an estimated 2 million spectators attended
- 20 the Tour of California, placing it as the most attended spectator
- 21 event in California on record and demonstrating the interest of
- 22 Californians in increased cycling opportunities.
- 23 (f) In October 2008, the American Association of State Highway
- 24 and Transportation Officials approved a plan to create a National
- 25 Corridor Plan, which seeks to identify corridors connecting

1 America's urban, suburban, and rural landscapes covering over
2 50,000 miles.

3 (g) Given the state's current fiscal condition, the cycling
4 community does not envision a substantial infusion of state
5 resources into cycling. Therefore, the cycling community is looking
6 to partner with the state to identify ways in which to spur economic
7 activity through this growing trend in cycling.

8 SEC. 2. Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 889) is added
9 to Chapter 8 of Division 1 of the Streets and Highways Code, to
10 read:

11
12 Article 2.5. California Bicycle Routes of ~~State~~ *National, State,*
13 *or Regional Significance*
14

15 889. This article shall be known and may be cited as the
16 California Bicycle Routes of ~~State~~ *National, State, or Regional*
17 *Significance Act.*

18 889.1. (a) The department may establish a process for
19 identifying and promoting bicycle routes of national, state, or
20 regional significance that meet specified criteria.

21 (b) In designating routes, the department may consider the
22 following:

23 (1) Historic routes.

24 (2) Established training routes or other designated routes,
25 including legs of the Tour of California.

26 (3) Routes of unique scenic significance.

27 (c) In identifying bicycle routes of national, state, or regional
28 significance, the department may work with the California Travel
29 and Tourism Commission, the Department of Parks and Recreation,
30 federal agencies that operate and maintain roadways for public
31 use, statewide trade organizations, including the California
32 Chamber of Commerce and the California Bicycle Coalition, local
33 tourism entities, chambers of commerce, and local bicycle
34 organizations.

35 (d) The department may form an advisory committee to help
36 implement the provisions of this section. The department may
37 establish a process whereby organizations, including, but not
38 limited to, local bicycle organizations, private entities, or local or
39 state governmental entities may nominate a route for inclusion in

1 the system of bicycle routes of national, state, or regional
2 significance.

3 (e) The department may develop criteria for the design,
4 placement, and installation of signs relative to bicycle routes of
5 national, state, or regional significance.

6 (f) It is the intent of the Legislature that city or county
7 participation in establishing local routes of significance under this
8 article shall be voluntary, similar to the State Scenic Highway
9 Program.

10 889.2. (a) The department may install bicycle route signs,
11 identifying bicycle routes of national, state, or regional
12 significance, that are associated only with the state highway system,
13 which includes state highways, United States highways, and
14 interstate freeways, and state-financed public transportation
15 systems. The physical placement of bicycle route signs on all other
16 roads and transit systems shall be left to the appropriate local
17 jurisdiction. However, when requested by a city or county and
18 reimbursed, the department shall place bicycle route signs on the
19 state highway system and state-financed public transportation
20 systems that direct traffic to bicycle routes on city or county roads.

21 (b) Bicycle route signs shall meet the standards and
22 specifications established pursuant to Section 21400 of the Vehicle
23 Code.

24 (c) The cost to purchase, erect, and maintain bicycle route signs
25 may be paid by applicants or nominating entities, as determined
26 by the department. These costs may be reimbursed to the
27 department at their actual cost, including administrative expenses.