

By Mr. Karol of Attleboro, petition of Stephen J. Karol, Andrew S. Natsios and another for legislation to regulate the equipment of bicycles. Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Five.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE EQUIPMENT OF BICYCLES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section eleven B of chapter eighty-five of the General Laws, as
2 most recently amended by chapter two hundred and seventy-five
3 of the acts of nineteen hundred and eighty-three, is hereby further
4 amended by striking out all after clause (11) and inserting in place
5 thereof the following: — (12) Every bicycle offered for sale at retail
6 shall be equipped with reflectors as described in clauses (8) and (9)
7 of this section.

8 Any federal product safety standards relating to bicycles which
9 are more stringent than the requirements of clauses (7) through
10 (10), inclusive, shall supersede said requirements.

11 Competitive bicycle races may be held on public ways, provided
12 that such races are sponsored by or in cooperation with recognized
13 bicycle organizations and, provided further, that the sponsoring
14 organization shall have obtained the approval of the appropriate
15 police department or departments. Special regulations regarding
16 the movement of bicycles during such races, or in training for
17 races, including, but not limited to permission to ride abreast, may
18 be established by agreement between the police department and
19 the sponsoring organization.

20 Violations of any provisions of this section, except clause (12),
21 shall be punished by a fine of not more than twenty dollars.
22 Violations of clause (12) shall be punished by a fine of not more
23 than one hundred and fifty dollars. The parent or guardian of any
24 person under age eighteen shall not authorize or knowingly permit

25 any such person to violate any of the provisions of this section. A
26 bicycle operated by a person under the age of eighteen in violation
27 of this section may be impounded by the police department, or, in a
28 town which has no police department, by the selectmen, for a
29 period not to exceed fifteen days. A violation of any provision of
30 this section by a minor under the age of eighteen shall not affect
31 any civil right or liability nor shall violation be considered a
32 criminal offense.