

HOUSE BILL NO. 543

INTRODUCED BY B. USHER

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THAT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAY SAFETY PLANNING CONSIDER SHARED USE OF HIGHWAYS BY ALL USERS; REQUIRING INCLUSION OF CERTAIN INTERESTS AND INDUSTRIES; REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REPORT TO THE REVENUE AND TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE REGARDING THE PLANNING PROCESS; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Highway safety planning -- emphasis on shared road use -- reporting.

(1) Highway safety planning conducted by the department under the authority provided in this part must incorporate evaluating the safety of the shared use of highways and roadways by bicyclists, pedestrians, and operators of motor vehicles, including commercial motor vehicles and farm vehicles. Strategies developed in the planning process to enhance highway safety must consider the shared use of highways for all users. Highway safety planning must include the interests of bicyclists, pedestrians, the disabled community, and operators of motor vehicles as well as the contracting, trucking, and tourism and recreation industries.

(2) The department shall report to the revenue and transportation interim committee established under 5-5-227 regarding its highway safety planning process and the ways the process is considering safety for all users of the highways.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 60, chapter 2, part 2, and the provisions of Title 60, chapter 2, part 2, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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