

SB 998 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Michael Lantz, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs State Court Administrative to study violations of state law. Requires Administrator to submit findings and recommendations to Legislative Assembly by December 31, 2019. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces measure. Provides that bicyclist approaching intersection with stop sign or flashing red light may proceed through the intersection or make a turn without stopping. Creates new crimes of improper entry into an intersection controlled by a stop sign and improper entry into an intersection controlled by a flashing red light. Provides that violation of either occurs when bicyclist fails to yield to traffic within the intersection, disobeys a police officer, fails to exercise care to avoid accident, or fails to yield right of way to pedestrian. Makes violation of either a class D traffic violation.

BACKGROUND:

Under current Oregon law, individuals riding bicycles on public roads are treated like other vehicles and must stop at intersections controlled by stop signs or a flashing red light before proceeding through the intersection. Several other states, including Idaho, allow bicyclists to treat stop signs or flashing red lights as yield signs and proceed through the intersection if the bicyclist has the right of way.

Senate Bill 998 directs the State Court Administrative to study violations of state law and submit findings and recommendations to Legislative Assembly by December 31, 2019.