



Leading the movement to create a bicycle-friendly America for everyone

1612 K STREET NW, SUITE 308, WASHINGTON, DC 20006 | phone 202-822-1333 | fax 202-822-1334 | WWW.BIKELEAGUE.ORG

Model Vulnerable Road User Law

The League of American Bicyclists created this Model Vulnerable Road User Law to help states and communities craft laws protecting bicyclists and other vulnerable road users. For more information on why such laws are needed and the features of this Model Law please visit: <http://bikeleague.org/content/model-vulnerable-road-user-law>.

Section 1: As used herein, the term “vulnerable road user” includes:

(a) a pedestrian, including those persons actually engaged in work upon a highway, or in work upon utility facilities along a highway, or engaged in the provision of emergency services within the right-of-way; or
(b) a person riding or leading an animal; or
(c) a person lawfully operating or riding any of the following on a public right-of-way, crosswalk, or shoulder of the highway:

1. bicycle, tricycle, or other pedal-powered vehicles;
2. A farm tractor or similar vehicle designed primarily for farm use;
3. A skateboard;
4. Roller skates;
5. In-line skates;
6. A scooter;
7. A moped;
8. A motorcycle;
9. An animal-drawn wheeled vehicle, or farm equipment, or sled;
10. An electric personal assistive mobility device; or
11. A wheelchair.

Section 2:

A person who operates a motor vehicle in a careless or distracted manner or [commits an existing traffic violation under state law] and causes serious physical injury or death to a vulnerable road user shall be guilty of infliction of serious physical injury or death to a vulnerable road user.

Section 3:

A person issued a citation under this section shall be required to attend a hearing before a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

Section 4:

A person found to have committed an offense under this statute shall be required to either:

- (a) have his or her driving privileged suspended for a period of no less than 6 months; and one or more of the following:
- (1) pay a monetary penalty of not more than two thousand dollars; and/or
 - (2) serve a period of incarceration which may not exceed thirty days; and/or
 - (3) fulfill an order of restitution for out-of-pocket losses resulting from the offense [in accordance with any current provisions for restitution found in a state’s statutes]; and/or
 - (4) participate in a motor vehicle accident prevention course; and/or
 - (5) perform community service for a number of hours to be determined by the court, which may not exceed two hundred hours.
- (b) [Receive a penalty equivalent to or greater than the penalty provided for the state’s vehicular or negligent homicide statute].

Text in [brackets] is meant to be altered to reflect existing state statutes.