

Date of Hearing: May 17, 2023

**ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS**

Chris Holden, Chair

AB 1188 (Boerner) – As Amended April 17, 2023

Policy Committee: Transportation

Vote: 15 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), upon appropriation, to develop and distribute a bicycle safety handbook on or before September 1, 2024.

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) will experience roughly \$4.1 million in one-time costs to create (approximately \$28,000), produce and print (approximately \$3.9 million), and distribute (\$200,000) the bicycle safety handbook (special fund).

CHP also anticipates ongoing costs to update the handbook and print it annually.

**COMMENTS:**

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) produces a driver's handbook and delivers it, free of charge, with each original vehicle registration and each original driver's license. The handbook includes information that summarizes the laws regulating the operation of vehicles and the use of highways, which includes laws regarding bicycles. However, the handbook is, generally, written from the perspective of motorists.

DMV also maintains webpages on bicycle safety and on the rules governing use of bicycles on roadways, including the obligation of motorists to share the road with cyclists.

The committee is unaware of another bicycle handbook issued by a state agency.

The author notes a significant increase in bicycle accidents in the City of Carlsbad and intends the bicycle safety handbook to increase the safety of cyclists. According to the author:

We all know when you are on a bicycle or e-bike; you are the most vulnerable during an accident. This bicycle safety handbook is intended to provide information for safe bicycling in California, including the value of using proper equipment, rules of the road, safety tips, and a bicyclist's rights and responsibilities. Having access to the information in the handbook and practicing safe riding skills will enable bicyclists to prevent the risk of serious injuries and even death.

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