

CALIFORNIA'S THREE FEET FOR SAFETY ACT

Key Points, Public Outreach, & Enforcement

KEY POINTS OF LEGISLATION: Effectual on September 16th, 2014, as part of the California Vehicle Code, Section 21750. Nevada enacted similar legislation in 2011. Twenty-four States participate nationwide.



The law seeks to increase safe passing interactions between all roadway users by requiring motorists to give at least 3 feet of clearance when passing a bike in

the same lane, or slow down until a safe passing distance is possible. Violation fees include \$35.00 for non-compliance and \$220.00, if collision occurs.

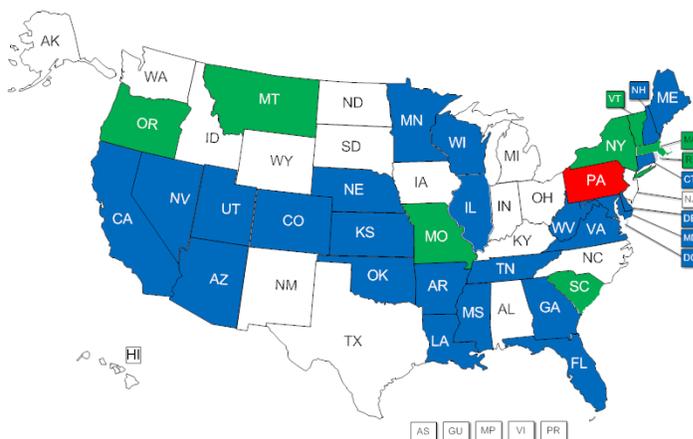
PUBLIC OUTREACH STRATEGIES: There are a variety of ways to publicize, bring awareness, and educate citizens on how to comply with the new Act.



Awareness Campaigns:

- *SWAG:* Placed in optimal locations such as the DMV, gas stations, and auto stores.
- *Radio, Video & Print Public Service Announcements:* Use local faces or celebrities, such as Olympic Champions from Lake Tahoe.

Map of States with Statutes Regarding Motorists Passing Bicyclists



LEGEND	
Blue square	States with 3-foot minimum passing distance
Red square	States with 4-foot minimum passing distance
Green square	States with general "safe distance" passing requirements
White square	States with no specific law for passing a bicyclist

- *Group Rides:* Could include media coverage and road closures in highly visible areas.
- *Digital Billboard Messages:* Already existing, or placed in areas of concern.

Education:

- *Adding Content to School Driver Education Curriculums:* Attachment A serves as an example for how to engage schools.
- *Erecting Approved Signage:* where shoulders are narrow, do not exist, or in highly traveled areas.



Note* official signage to be determine by CTCDC on 9.25.14

Colorado's Three Foot Law



ENFORCEMENT:

No law is effective without a suite of education & enforcement strategies. Collaboration between government, police departments, advocacy groups, motorists, and cyclists all support implementation and enforcement.

- *Education on Enforcement Strategies for Police:* Informational handouts, powerpoint presentations, reference cards, and training videos provided by organizations like the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
- *Education for Motorists:* The States of Nevada and Texas have implemented “sting operations,” where police officers pose as bicyclists, and pull over non-compliant motorists. These motorists are given warnings, and educational materials.
- *Education for Cyclists:* Stop and educate cyclists who ride down the wrong side of the street, or don't follow roadway signalization.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Government: Plan & build infrastructure that accommodates all roadway users. Provide educational materials, advertise, and provide bikes for Police Department use, as in NDOT example.

Police Department: Enforce and assist in educating roadway users of the law.

Advocacy Groups: Conduct education & awareness outreach activities that increase knowledge of all users' travel behaviour responsibility. Advocate building appropriate roadway infrastructure.

Cyclists: Know the law, and follow regulations as safety allows.

Motorists: Share the road with all users, and follow regulations.

REFERENCES:

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- League of Illinois Bicyclists. (2014). <http://www.bikelib.org/safety-education/enforcement-resources/>
- California Bicycle Coalition. (2014). <https://calbike.org/3feet4safety/>



League of Illinois Bicyclists



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August 2014

Driver Education Department

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Dear high school driving instructor,

Are you teaching your students how to avoid the common car-bicycle crash types? Are they learning all the relevant state laws? Too many motorists (and bicyclists!) have only superficial knowledge on the topic. Here's an easy way to help.

Please use www.bikesafetyquiz.com, our free and upgraded, IHSCDEA- and Secretary of State-approved online lesson that teaches driver education students about safe and legal driving around bicycles. **Your school could even win money** for doing so, as Mahomet-Seymour and O'Fallon Township High Schools did at this year's IHSCDEA conference!

The site's "Motorist" quiz is one of three lessons (with "Adult Bicyclists" and "Child Bicyclists") in a multiple-choice quiz format. The learning comes from the tailored feedback to a student's answer choice, and users get second and third chances to correct wrong answers. Everyone ends up with 100%.

The entire Motorist quiz – 26 questions divided into Bronze, Silver, and Gold levels – can be completed in 20-30 minutes. It's ideal as a driver education **homework or computer lab assignment.**

Instructors can go to www.bikesafetyquiz.com/teacherpage for easy instructions, to set up a 9-digit class code, and to view students' results. If you don't want to create a code, students may simply go to www.bikesafetyquiz.com, take the Motorist quiz, and email or hand in their automatically-generated Certificate of Completion.

Schools using www.bikesafetyquiz.com (as tracked by the class codes created, or letting us know) by May 1, 2015 are eligible for several **\$500-\$1000 raffle prizes.**

Thanks in advance for helping to close an educational gap and making roads safer.

Sincerely,

Ed Barsotti, Executive Director

P.S. Try out the quiz yourself! You'll see that it's a great teaching tool.

“Great resource!”
- Mahomet-Seymour HS instructor Brian Schwarzentraub

“We love the web site and are glad that our students can use it as a resource” - O'Fallon Township HS Driver Education Coordinator Kristi Mueller.