BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 3665 By: Ordaz Perez Transportation Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Concerns have been raised regarding the narrow definition of a bicycle for purposes of state transportation law. It has been suggested that the current definition, which is used to enforce rules of the road, does not account for modifications to bicycles designed for use by riders with disabilities. C.S.H.B. 3665 seeks to make adaptive bicycles designed for these riders street legal by clarifying ambiguity with regard to the current definition of bicycle.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 3665 amends the Transportation Code to expand the definition of "bicycle" for purposes of the rules of the road to include a device capable of being ridden solely using human power and that has two or more wheels, at least one of which is more than 14 inches in diameter, and a belt, chain, or gears. The bill specifies that the definition excludes a moped.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2021.

COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE

While C.S.H.B. 3665 may differ from the original in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following summarizes the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

The substitute changes the original's revised definition of "bicycle" as follows:

- to explicitly exclude a moped from the definition; and
- to describe the bicycle explicitly, with respect to a belt, chain, wheels, and gears, rather than describing it as a device generally recognized as a bicycle, regardless of the number of wheels on the device.

87R 20296 21.106.2035

Substitute Document Number: 87R 19044