



Minnesota is a state where bicycling is a safe, easy, fun and cool choice for everyone.

Bicycle Alliance of
Minnesota
PO Box 65166
Saint Paul, MN 55165
www.bikemn.org

October 4, 2011

California Bicycle Coalition
1017 L Street, #288
Sacramento, CA 95814

To Whom it May Concern,

Minnesota has had a 3 foot minimum for passing bicyclists for nearly three decades. It has not had a noticeable impact on motor vehicle travel or crashes. It has, however, had a positive impact on bicycling.

Over half of Minnesotans bicycle and they are bicycling more frequently. Motor vehicle drivers seem to have noticed this fact and appear to be at the beginning stages of a significant cultural shift toward respecting bicyclists and pedestrians, yielding at crosswalks and waiting until it is safe to pass bicyclists riding on the roads and streets. Minneapolis and Portland have documented a significant increase in bicycle mode share and a decrease in the bicycle/motor vehicle crash rate. I am sure this is due to a number of factors including share the road campaigns and enforcement of the law for both bicyclists and motorists, but, the three foot passing law is certainly a factor in these positive numbers.

Minnesota and communities throughout the state are embracing bicycling and walking as tools to improve the health of communities, individuals, the environment and the economy. Enacting a law that requires motorists to pass bicyclists safely has contributed to this culture shift by making the roads in Minnesota safer and more civil for all.

The Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota urges Governor Brown to sign the California three foot passing law.

Sincerely,

Dorian Grilley
Executive Director