
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 406

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISPLAY OF LIGHTED LAMPS ON BICYCLES, ELECTRIC BICYCLES AND ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.

SUMMARY

This bill lengthens the time period when bicycles, electric bicycles, and electric scooters operated on a public road must display a lighted lamp on the front of the vehicle. Current law requires their display at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise. The bill instead requires it at any time from a half-hour before sunset to a half-hour after sunrise.

Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, these vehicles must also display the light:

1. when, due to poor light or weather conditions, riders cannot see people and vehicles on the road at 500 feet ahead of them and
2. during precipitation, including snow, rain, or fog.

By law and under the bill, a violation of these provisions is an infraction (CGS § 14-288(b)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

BACKGROUND

Infractions

Infractions are punishable by fines, usually set by Superior Court judges, of between \$35 and \$90, plus a \$20 or \$35 surcharge and an additional fee based on the fine's amount. There may also be other applicable charges depending on the type of infraction. For example, certain motor vehicle infractions trigger a Special Transportation Fund surcharge of 50% of the fine. An infraction is not a crime, and violators can generally pay the fine by mail without making a court appearance.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/17/2026)