

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2016 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4506

BY DELEGATE TRECOST

[Introduced February 11, 2016; referred to the
committee on Roads and Transportation then the
Judiciary.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17C-15-23 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,
2 relating to permitting reflective lighting on motorcycles.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That §17C-15-23 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and
2 reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 15. EQUIPMENT.

**§17C-15-23. Lighting equipment, reflective material on motorcycles, motor-driven cycles
and mopeds.**

1 (a) The head lamp or head lamps upon every motorcycle, motor- driven cycle and moped
2 may be of the single-beam or multiple-beam type but in either event shall comply with the
3 requirements and limitations as follows:

4 (1) Every head lamp or head lamps shall be of sufficient intensity to reveal a person or a
5 vehicle at a distance of not less than one hundred feet when the motorcycle, motor-driven cycle
6 or moped is operated at any speed less than twenty-five miles per hour and at a distance of not
7 less than two hundred feet when it is operated at a speed of twenty-five or more miles per hour.

8 (2) If the motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped is equipped with a multiple-beam type
9 head lamp or head lamps the upper beam shall meet the minimum requirements set forth above
10 and not exceed the limitations set forth in section twenty (a) of this article and the lowermost beam
11 shall meet the requirements applicable to a lowermost distribution of light as set forth in section
12 twenty (b) of this article.

13 (3) If the motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped is equipped with a single-beam lamp
14 or lamps, the lamp or lamps shall be so aimed that when the vehicle is loaded none of the high-
15 intensity portion of light, at a distance of twenty-five feet ahead, shall project higher than the level
16 of the center of the lamp from which it comes.

17 ~~(4) (A)~~ (b) Subject to ~~paragraph (B)~~ subsection (c) of this ~~subdivision~~ section, a motorcycle,
18 motor-driven cycle or moped may be equipped with, and ~~an~~ the operator of ~~a motorcycle~~

19 use, the following auxiliary lighting and reflective material:

20 ~~(i)~~ (1) Amber and white illumination;

21 ~~(ii)~~ (2) Standard bulb running lights; ~~and~~

22 ~~(iii)~~ (3) Light-emitting diode pods and strips; and

23 (4) Amber and white reflectors or reflective strips: *Provided, That red reflective material*

24 may be used on the rear of the vehicle.

25 ~~(B)~~ (c) Lighting ~~under this subdivision~~ subject to this subsection shall be:

26 ~~(i)~~ (1) Nonblinking;

27 ~~(ii)~~ (2) Nonflashing;

28 ~~(iii)~~ (3) Nonoscillating; and

29 ~~(iv)~~ (4) Directed toward the engine and the drive train of the motorcycle to prevent

30 interference with the driver's operation of the vehicle.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to permit the use of reflective material on motorcycles for safety purposes.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.