

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND INDEPENDENT
AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 349

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 4, 2024

The Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 349.

As reported, this bill concerns motor vehicles overtaking certain pedestrians and persons operating bicycles and personal conveyances.

Under current law, the operator of a motor vehicle is required to take certain actions when approaching a pedestrian, bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, low-speed electric scooter, or any other lawful personal conveyance on the roadways of this State.

Additionally, current law does not define “personal conveyance.” Under this bill, “personal conveyance” includes, but is not limited to, a low-speed electric bicycle, a low-speed electric scooter, a manual wheelchair, a motorized wheelchair or a similar mobility assisting device used by persons with physical disabilities or by persons whose ambulatory mobility has been impaired by age or illness, an electric personal assistive mobility device, a motorized scooter, a skateboard, a motorized skateboard, roller skates, or any other device used by a person for transportation.

In addition, this bill makes clarifying changes to the current definition of “pedestrian.” Under the bill, “pedestrian” includes, but is not limited to, a pedestrian as defined under current law or any other person who is upon the roadway and outside of a motor vehicle for work, emergency response, or recreation.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 349 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 1490, which was also reported by the committee on this date.