House Bill 154 Passes House Committee  
By OBF Chair Chuck Smith

June was an important month for the Ohio Bicycle Federation’s House Bill 154. HB 154 would do two things for Ohio’s bicyclists:

1. Require that Ohio motorists leave at least three feet of clearance when passing bicyclists.

2. Permit all Ohio vehicles to proceed through an intersection after stopping and yielding right-of-way, even when the device designed to move the signal from red to green does not detect the vehicle.

On June 10, I joined OBF Secretary Tricia Kovacs and four other Ohio bicyclists in testifying before the Ohio House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, and Public Safety Committee. During my testimony, I recalled my 22 years of bicycle commuting between home and work. Two traffic signals along my route did not detect my bicycle. Thus, I had to leave the roadway to push the pedestrian button. With HB 154, I would simply wait a little, look both ways, then proceed.

On June 24, the Committee approved our HB 154 by a 12 to 0 vote. Our bill went to the full House, which recessed for the summer. The full House is expected to reconvene in September.

Please support House Bill 154 by going to our OBF website at www.ohiobike.org. Our home page permits the user to get off an email to his or her state representative by entering his or her zip code. In addition to the emailed support, please also add your name to our growing petition.

You can read the full text of HB154 at https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-status?id=GA131-HB-154

Senator Troy Balderson of Zanesville has introduced Senate Bill 192, which is identical to HB 154. Please ask your state senator to support SB 192.
Four state representatives and one state senator spoke during OBF’s 2nd Annual Ohio Bicycling Summit in the Statehouse Atrium on April 22, 2015.

Representative Mike Henne kicked off the Summit with a call for support of House Bill 154, which he and Representative Mike Sheehy introduced on April 13, 2015.

Representatives Sheehy and Mike Stinziano spoke in favor of their HB 88 texting bill. Senator John Eklund supported his Senate Bill 57 which would authorize counties to regulate traffic on county and township roads.

Representative Brian Hill discussed HB 110, which would increase penalties for leaving collision scenes.

OBF Chair Chuck Smith presented the OBF’s Horace Huffman Award for Service to Ohio Bicycling to Bike Miami Valley Executive Director Laura Estandia for Dayton’s new Link Dayton Bike Share program.

Melissa Thompson of the OBF Board and the Northeast Ohio Area-Wide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) discussed roadway design for bicycles.

Ohio Environmental Council Deputy Director Jack Shaner briefed attendees on approaching state lawmakers regarding legislation. Attendees, including members of the Upper Arlington High School Cycling Club, then discussed HB 154 with their state legislators.

Ohio to Erie Trail Executive Director Julie Van Winkle and ODOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Julie Walcoff gave updates.

Twenty-one exhibiting sponsors made the Summit possible. These included the American Cancer Society, Bike Cleveland, Bike Miami Valley, Bike Springfield, City of Columbus, Columbus Outdoor Pursuits, Central Ohio Mountain Biking Association, Dayton Cycling Club, Five Rivers MetroParks, Friends of Madison County Parks and Trails, Kenyon College Institute/Kenyon Cycling Seminar, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, Ohio Bicycle Federation, Ohio to Erie Trail, Queen City Bike, Ride for World Health, Slow Roll Cleveland, Safe Routes to School National Partnership, Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments, and Village Bicycle Cooperative.

Join us in the Ohio Statehouse Atrium from 9 am to 3 pm on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 for our 3rd Annual OBF Ohio Bicycling Summit!

Representatives Sheehy and Henne at the Summit.

SAME ROADS    SAME RIGHTS    SAME RULES
Join Us September 12 for OBF Day at the Cleveland Velodrome

10 am to Noon: Fast Track Cycling gives two free training lessons in velodrome riding to all OBF members at the Cleveland Velodrome, 5033 Broadway Avenue, (Entrance off of Pershing Ave), Cleveland, OH 44127, (216) 256-4285.

2 pm: OBF meeting at Ohio City Cycling Co-Op, 1840 Columbus Rd, Cleveland, OH 44113, (216) 830-2667.

Bring a helmet, pedals and cycling shoes to the Cleveland Velodrome at 5033 Broadway Avenue, (Entrance off of Pershing Ave), Cleveland, Ohio.

For additional details, go to the OBF website at www.ohiobike.org.

OBF Sponsors Adventure Summit
February 19 & 20, 2016

Join us February 19 and 20, 2016, as your OBF will again sponsor the cycling participation in the 2016 Adventure Summit in the Wright State University Student Union Building, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy, Dayton, OH 45435-0001.

The OBF and other cycling organizations will have displays in the Student Union throughout the 2-day event. The OBF will meet on Saturday afternoon. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Please Send OBF Your Email Address

If you wish to continue to receive our OBF Communicator, please send the email address at which you would like to receive our newsletter to Kris Stout of our membership team at kstout@legaldayton.com.

To save money and trees, your OBF Communicator will soon come in electronic newsletter form. Our OBF Ohio Bicycle Events Calendar will continue to be published in both electronic and paper form.
Ohio Bicycle Federation

PEDAL WITH OBF TO A BETTER OHIO IN 2015!

Register below as an OBF member today!

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City/State/Zip: ______________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________________
E-mail: ____________________________________________

Select Level Years Single Family Supporting or Organizational Sustaining Lifetime
[ ] 1 $20 $25 $50
[ ] 2 $35 $45 $90
[ ] 3 $50 $65 $135

Join or Renew at Supporting Level or above and receive an OBF T-Shirt (specify size)!
Join or Renew at Sustaining Level and also receive the new Ohio to Erie Trail Bikeway map!
Make check payable to “Ohio Bicycle Federation” and mail completed form
to: Ohio Bicycle Federation, 812 East National Road, Vandalia, Ohio 45377

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Join us Sep 12, 2015
for our 2nd “OBF Day at the Cleveland Velodrome” during which, all OBF members will receive free instruction in riding the velodrome on a track bike.

Join us Oct 27-28, 2015
At the OBF Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference at the Columbus Convention Center.

Join us Feb 19 & 20, 2016
as OBF again sponsors the cycling portion of the Adventure Summit in the Wright State University Student Union in Dayton.

Join us Feb 23, 2016
At the Ohio Statehouse Atrium for our 3rd annual OBF Ohio Bicycling Summit.

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFO GO TO WWW.OHIOBIKE.ORG