

12 June 2013

The Chairman
Transport, Housing & Local Government Committee
Parliament House
Cnr George & Alice Streets
BRISBANE QLD 4000

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THLGC

Dear Mr Hobbs

State Cycling Laws

I note the Minister for Transport & Main Roads has written to your committee requesting a review of the above having regard to the safety of cyclists on the road.

I am not a cyclist myself although I did cycle to and from work some 68 years ago when traffic was much lighter.

I have often wondered if it would help both cyclists and motorists if cyclists were to adopt the way people riding horses in the country follow - that is ride facing the on-coming traffic.

It would mean changing the road rules to permit cyclists to ride on the "wrong" side of the road but in the case of clearly marked cycle lanes that would not matter and where there are no cycle lanes the cyclist could still keep as far as possible to his/her right.

Riders would be able to see motorists coming towards them and take evasive action if such be necessary whilst motorists would similarly be in the same position.

I live in the hinterland area of the Gold Coast and when out driving often see horses ridden the way I have described. We still slow down when approaching such riders so as not to spook the horse. Shades of the 40s and 50s!

It may be worth while taking up this suggestion with the automobile associations and other interested parties.

Clearly, if such a course was adopted, it would have to be on a national basis - that may be difficult having regard to the so-called States' rights.

Sincerely

FDA Nathan