

Bicycles **ARE** Allowed!



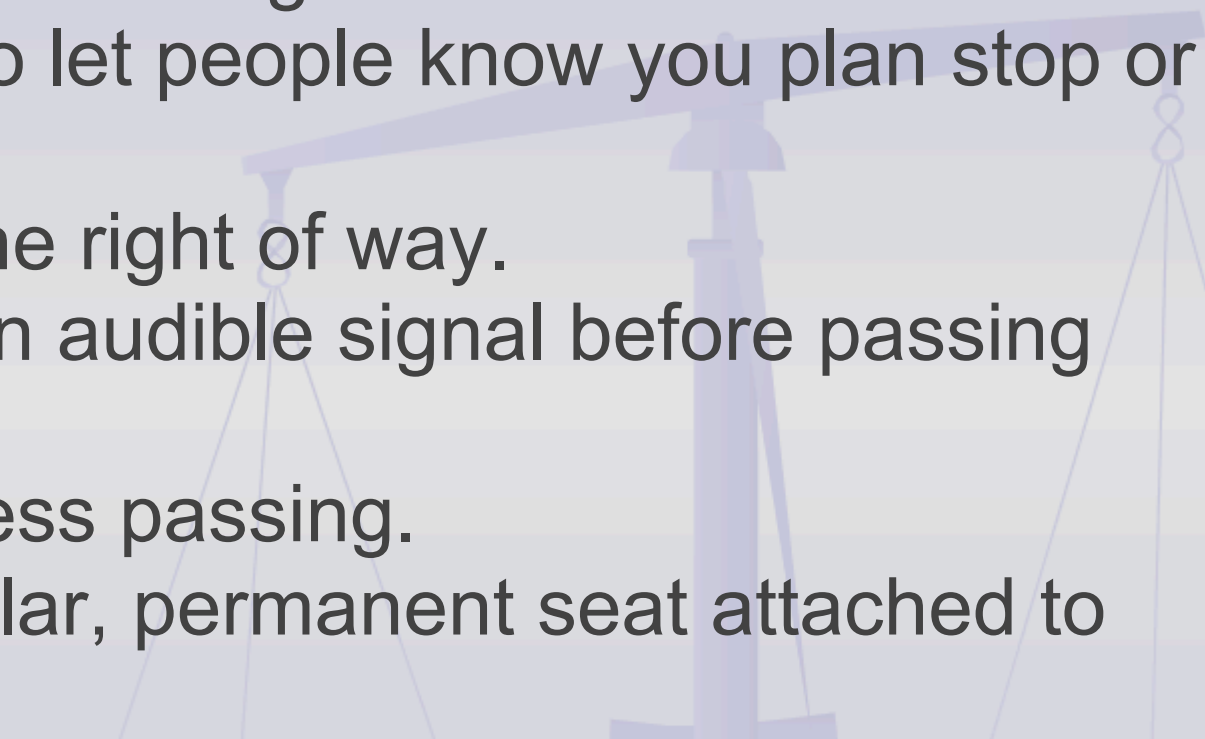
An overview of Mass General Laws
for bicycles

MGL: [Chapter 85 - Section 11B](#)

Your Rights

- **You may:**
 - Ride bicycle on **any** public road, street, or bikeway except limited access or state highways
 - Ride on sidewalks outside business districts (unless local law prohibits)
 - Use either hand to signal stops and turns
 - Pass cars on the right
 - Have as many lights and reflectors on your bike as you wish.
 - Hold a bicycle race on any public road or street (with a recognized bicycle organization and prior police department approval)

Your Responsibilities

- **You must:**
 - Obey all traffic laws and regulation
 - Use hand signals to let people know you plan stop or turn.
 - Give pedestrians the right of way.
 - Give pedestrians an audible signal before passing them.
 - Ride single file unless passing.
 - Ride astride a regular, permanent seat attached to your bicycle.
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Your Responsibilities (cont.)

- **You must:**
 - Keep one hand on your handlebars at all times.
 - If you are 16 or younger, you **must** wear a helmet.
 - Have headlight and taillight on if riding anytime from 1/2 hour after sunset until 1/2 hour before sunrise.
 - Notify police of any accident involving personal injury or property damage over \$100.

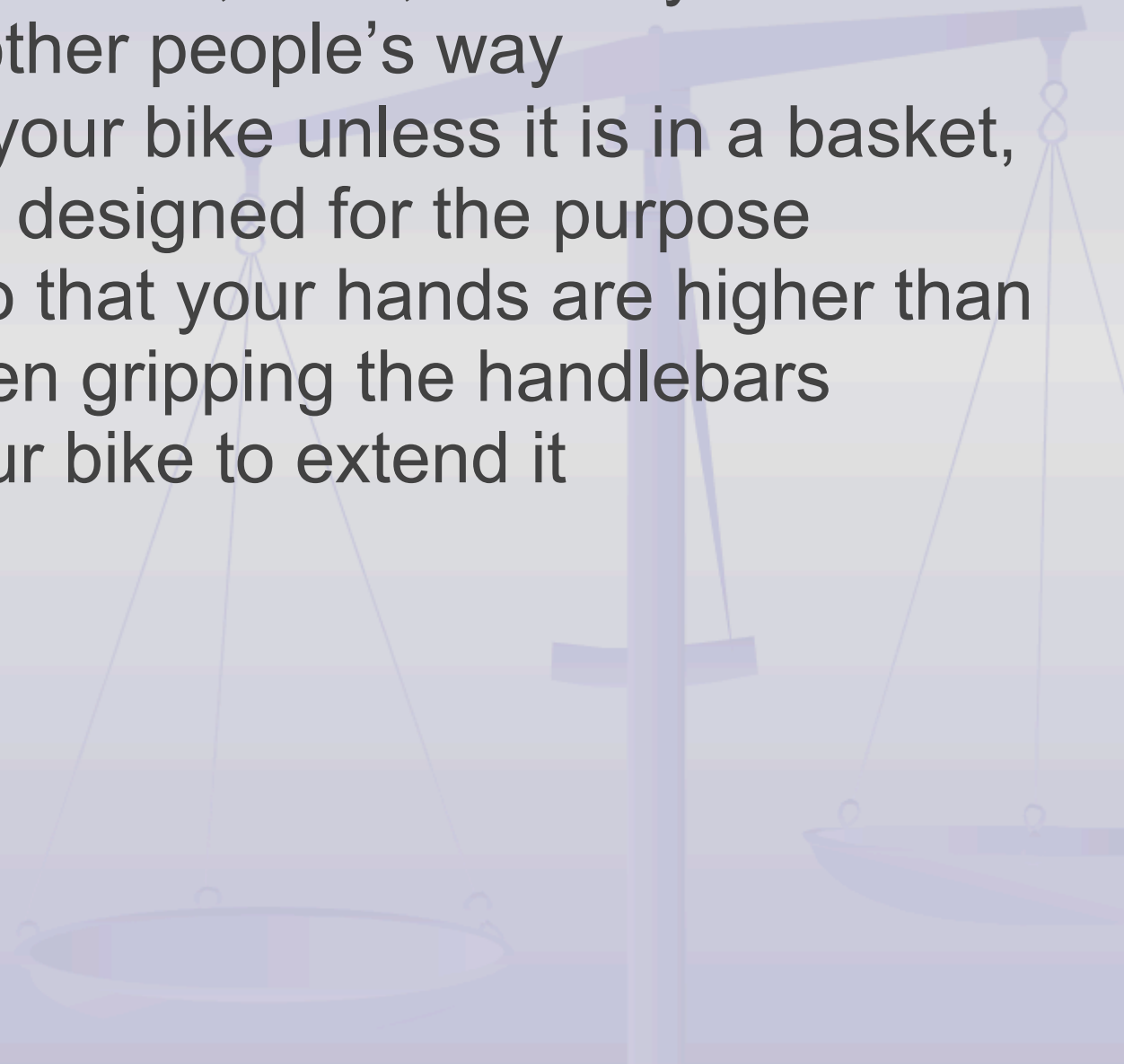
Your Responsibilities (cont.)

- You **MAY NOT**:

- Carry a passenger anywhere on your bike except on a regular seat permanently attached to the bike, or to a trailer towed by the bike
- Carry any child between the ages of 1 to 4, or weighing 40lbs or less, anywhere on a single-passenger bike except in a baby seat attached to the bike.
- Carry any child under the age of 1 on your bike
- Use a siren or whistle on your bike to warn pedestrians

Your Responsibilities (cont.)

- You **MAY NOT**:
 - Park your bike on a street, road, bikeway or sidewalk where it will be in other people's way
 - Carry anything on your bike unless it is in a basket, rack, bag, or trailer designed for the purpose
 - Modify your bike so that your hands are higher than your shoulders when gripping the handlebars
 - Alter the fork of your bike to extend it



Your Responsibilities (cont.)

- Your bike **MUST** have:
 - A permanent, regular seat attached to it
 - Brakes must be able to stop, from a speed of 15mph, within 30ft of braking.
 - Your headlight must emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500ft.
 - Your taillight must be red and must be visible from a distance of at least 600ft
 - Your reflectors must be visible in the low beams of a car's headlights from a distance of at least 600ft

Penalties for Violations

- Can be punished by a fine of up to \$20
- Parents and guardians are responsible for cyclists under the age of 18.
- Bicycle of anyone under 18 who violates the law can be impounded by the police or town selectmen for up to 15 days.

