





SAVE THIS | EMAIL THIS | Close

Ohio man, 3-wheeled ride to work help change law

Posted 5/17/2009 5:10 PM ET

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — An Ohio man's unusual ride to work has spurred changes to the wording of Ohio law.

Bracy Elton regularly pedals 15 miles to his job at Dayton's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base on a neon-green, three-wheeled recumbent vehicle called a "tadpole trike," dwarfed by the growling line of cars and trucks waiting to enter the base. The security guards at Gate 22-B have become accustomed to seeing Elton whip around the highway ramp and pull up to the gate on his unusual carriage.

"I enjoy cycling," said Elton, who uses the vehicle to get to work two or three times a week in nice weather. "If I need to be at work and I'm at home, I'm going to ride. Then I get my exercise in."

The 48-year-old from nearby Washington Township rode bicycles for years but switched to the three-wheeler when he developed a medical condition that made it hard for him to balance.

Earlier this year, he became concerned that the state's definition of a street-legal bike didn't include his ride because of its unusual wheel configuration. He fired off an e-mail to Republican state Sen. Jon Husted (pronounced HYOO'-stehd) of Kettering.

Husted agreed that something was wrong.

"I read it and said, 'It makes sense to me," said Husted, who changed the language in a transportation bill that was signed into law in April. "He did his homework. When technology changes, sometimes laws get outdated."

The new wording takes effect on July 1, but Elton says he's riding his three-wheeler in the meantime as though it were legally considered a bicycle.

He made the trek Friday on Bike to Work Day, joining thousands around the nation who bike to work regularly or just gave it a try for a day.

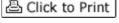
Many people started riding bikes last summer because of high gasoline prices, and some stuck with it even after prices came down, said Tim Blumenthal, executive director of Bikes Belong, a national organization dedicated to getting people to ride bikes more often.

Bicycle purchases and other anecdotal evidence also indicates the ranks of bike-to-work advocates like Elton are growing, according to the League of American Bicyclists, which promotes bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation.

Copyright 2009 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Find this article at:

http://content.usatoday.net/dist/custom/gci/InsidePage.aspx?cld=cincinnati&sParam=30776165.story&POE=click-refer



SAVE THIS | EMAIL THIS | Close

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.

1 of 2 5/18/2009 4:13 PM

Copyright 2008 USA TODAY, a division of Gannett Co. Inc.

2 of 2