

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 27567 is added to the Streets and Highways Code, to read:

27567. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(1) The Golden Gate Bridge is a treasured San Francisco Bay Area landmark, attracting visitors from around the world. As a transportation and recreation corridor, the bridge links highway and trail traffic along the bay and it is crossed by tens of millions of people each year.

(2) Free bridge access for bicyclists and pedestrians is a tradition making the bridge a vibrant part of life in the Bay Area that is routinely enjoyed by area residents. It also provides an incentive for the use of nonvehicular forms of transportation that improve air quality, confront climate change, and encourage physical activity.

(3) The district was formed by the Legislature under authority of the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway Act of 1923, and was incorporated on December 4, 1928. At multiple times in recent years, the district has considered and rejected charging sidewalk fees. Sidewalk fees would directly contradict California's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and fostering healthy, sustainable transportation strategies.

(4) A sidewalk fee is wrong and unfairly burdens people biking and walking. The state should work to expand access to this iconic landmark, not limit it to only those who can afford to pay. The Golden Gate Bridge sidewalks should remain free to the public.

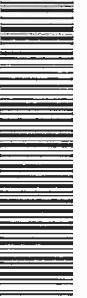


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(b) Notwithstanding Section 27171 or any other provision of law, the district may not fix or collect any tolls or access fees for pedestrian and bicyclist use of the Golden Gate Bridge sidewalks.

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