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January 25, 2018

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North American Bikeshare Association Urges Florida Legislators to Defeat Bills Preempting Local Control of Dockless Bikeshare

- *Last week, equally disconcerting legislation surfaced in Oklahoma*
- *Industry-leading organization says successful bikeshare depends on local decision-making authority*
- *“We don’t want bills like this to become a trend, which could jeopardize bikeshare in every city,” says executive director*

NORTH AMERICA, January 25, 2018 — After passing at the House Careers and Competition Committee on January 16, a new Florida bill that could strip local regulation of dockless bikeshare will move to the House Commerce Committee next. A companion bill in the Florida Senate has been referred to the Banking and Insurance Committee. Last week, similar legislation in the form of [SB 1374](#) moves forward in the Oklahoma state legislature.

According to the [North American Bikeshare Association \(NABSA\)](#), a trend of state bills preempting local control of dockless bikeshare could damage the success of current and future bikeshare systems.

“We know that the success of bikeshare, the safety of riders and the quality of the service all depend on local management and decision-making authority,” says NABSA Executive Director Samantha Herr. “As the bikeshare industry’s leading membership organization with representation from system owners, operators, host cities, equipment manufacturers and technology providers, we do not support any legislation that jeopardizes local control and threatens what’s best for bikeshare as a whole.”

In December 2017, Florida House of Representatives and Senate introduced bills [SB 1304](#) and [HB 1033](#). If passed, the bills would remove the power of Florida cities to regulate local bikeshare systems and mandate a statewide bikeshare policy that does not account for safety standards, equipment quality, maintenance, customizability and customer service unique to each city. As written, these bills would preempt any existing contracts and provisions Florida cities have with bikeshare providers.

“Bikeshare is not one size fits all,” says Herr. “These bills would negate the investment and success of existing bikeshare systems currently providing important services in their communities and potentially subject the public to unnecessary safety hazards in the process,” says Herr.

With its [letter of opposition](#), NABSA urges the Florida Legislature to defeat the bills and maintain the industry standard for local control of bikeshare across the United States.

For more information on NABSA and its vision for a future that is shared, [please click here](#).

To learn more about Florida bills [SB 1304](#) and [HB 1033](#), please click [here](#). To learn more about Oklahoma bill SB 1374, please click [here](#).

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NORTH AMERICAN BIKESHARE ASSOCIATION: Founded in 2014, [NABSA](#) is the member-driven non-profit organization of and for the bike-sharing industry in North America. NABSA's mission is to provide support for the bikeshare community and accelerate the growth of bikeshare systems across North America and the world.