

SB302 INTRODUCED



1 SB302
2 9JWA6BB-1
3 By Senator Shelnutt
4 RFD: Banking and Insurance
5 First Read: 08-Apr-25



SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, a person may not operate or ride on a motorcycle unless that person is wearing approved protective headgear.

This bill would authorize individuals of a certain age who carry certain health insurance to operate or ride on a motorcycle without protective headgear.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to motorcycles, to amend Section 32-5A-245, Code of Alabama 1975, to authorize individuals of a certain age who carry certain health insurance to operate or ride on a motorcycle without protective headgear.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 32-5A-245, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§32-5A-245

(a) (1) No ~~person shall~~ individual may operate or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle unless he or she is wearing protective headgear that complies with standards



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established by Section 32-12-41.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1), an individual that is 18 years of age or older may operate or ride on a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle without wearing protective headgear if he or she is covered by a health insurance plan that provides medical benefits for injuries incurred as a result of a crash while operating or riding on a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle.

(b) No ~~person shall~~ individual may operate or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle unless he or she is wearing shoes.

(c) (1) This section shall not apply to ~~persons~~ individuals riding within an enclosed cab.

(2) This section does not apply to the operator of an autocycle, as defined under Section 32-6A-1.

(d) The Secretary of the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency may approve or disapprove protective headgear and may adopt and enforce rules establishing standards and specifications for the approval thereof. The secretary shall publish lists of all protective headgear which have been approved by him or her.

(e) No ~~person shall~~ individual may knowingly permit or allow any juvenile for whom he or she is a parent or guardian to operate or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle while not wearing a protective helmet of the kind authorized by Section 32-12-41.

(f) No ~~person shall~~ individual may knowingly permit or allow any juvenile for whom he or she is a parent or guardian



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57 to operate or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle
58 while not wearing shoes.

59 (g) No manufacturer, retailer, or other person shall
60 sell or offer for sale motorcycle helmets that fail to comply
61 with the standards established by the Secretary of the Alabama
62 State Law Enforcement Agency pursuant to this section."

63 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
64 1, 2025.