

1 HB212
2 164803-2
3 By Representatives Pettus, Ball, Greer and Rowe
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 10-MAR-15

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a person with a
9 learner's license or a driver's license may operate
10 a motorcycle and persons 14 years of age or older
11 may obtain a license to operate a motor-driven
12 cycle.

13 This bill would require the operator of a
14 motorcycle to pass a motorcycle test designated by
15 the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency or complete an
16 Alabama Traffic Safety Center/Alabama Motorcycle
17 Safety Program, Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Basic
18 Riders Course and to have a Class M designation on
19 the person's driver's license or to have a Class M
20 motorcycle license.

21 This bill would also specify that a person
22 14 years of age or older would be required to pass
23 a knowledge test designated by the Alabama Law
24 Enforcement Agency or complete an Alabama Traffic
25 Safety Center/Alabama Motorcycle Safety Program,
26 Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Basic Riders Course

1 in order to obtain a Class M motorcycle license
2 with a motor-driven cycle restriction.

3 This bill would also specify that a person
4 17 years of age or younger operating a motorcycle
5 or motor-driven cycle would be subject to the
6 restrictions provided in the Graduated Driver's
7 License law applicable to a driver 17 years of age
8 or younger.

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10 A BILL

11 TO BE ENTITLED

12 AN ACT

13
14 Relating to the operation of motorcycles and
15 motor-driven cycles; to amend Sections 32-5A-240 and 32-12-22,
16 Code of Alabama 1975, to provide the license requirements for
17 a Class M motorcycle designation on a regular driver's license
18 and for a Class M motorcycle license; and to further provide
19 the requirements for a license to operate a motor-driven
20 cycle.

21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

22 Section 1. Sections 32-5A-240 and 32-12-22, Code of
23 Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

24 "§32-5A-240.

25 "(a) Every Subject to subsection (b), each person
26 operating a motorcycle shall be granted all of the rights and
27 shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver

1 of any other vehicle under this chapter, except as to special
2 regulations in this article and except as to those provisions
3 of this chapter which by their nature can have no application.

4 "(b) (1) Each person operating a motorcycle on any
5 public road, street, or highway in this state shall have
6 successfully passed a motorcycle test designated by the
7 Alabama Law Enforcement Agency and shall have a motorcycle
8 Class M displayed on his or her driver's license along with
9 the regular class of the license or have been issued a Class M
10 motorcycle license.

11 "(2) A person may also obtain the Class M license by
12 successfully completing a written motorcycle test designated
13 by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency or by completing an
14 Alabama Traffic Safety Center/Alabama Motorcycle Safety
15 Program, Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Basic Riders Course.

16 "(3) A person 17 years of age or younger operating a
17 motorcycle shall be subject to the operating hours,
18 exceptions, and suspensions provided in Section 32-6-7.2.

19 "§32-12-22.

20 ~~"Every person, except a person holding a driver's~~
21 ~~license issued under authority of Chapter 6 of this title,~~
22 ~~before operating any motor-driven cycle upon a public highway~~
23 ~~in this state, shall register it with the Director of Public~~
24 ~~Safety and procure an operator's license. Operators' licenses~~
25 ~~shall be issued under and be governed by the provisions of~~
26 ~~Chapter 6 of this title; except, that such a license shall be~~
27 ~~issued to any person 14 years of age and older if such a~~

1 ~~person can satisfy the Director of Public Safety or an~~
2 ~~examining officer that he or she is competent to operate a~~
3 ~~motor-driven cycle with safety to persons and to property. (a)~~
4 A person operating a motor-driven cycle with a Class M
5 motorcycle license with a motor-driven cycle restriction, a
6 motorcycle Class M displayed on the person's regular license,
7 or a Class M motorcycle license shall be granted all of the
8 rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to
9 the driver of any other vehicle under Chapter 6 of this title,
10 except as to special regulations in this article and those
11 provisions of this chapter which by their nature can have no
12 application.

13 "(b) (1) A Class M motorcycle license with a
14 motor-driven cycle restriction shall be issued to any person
15 14 years and older if the person has passed a motorcycle
16 knowledge test designated by the Alabama Law Enforcement
17 Agency or if the individual has successfully completed an
18 Alabama Traffic Safety Center/Alabama Motorcycle Safety
19 Program, Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Basic Riders Course.

20 "(2) A person 17 years of age or younger operating a
21 motor-driven cycle shall be subject to the operating hours,
22 exceptions, and suspensions provided in Section 32-6-7.2."

23 Section 2. This act shall become effective January
24 1, 2016, following its passage and approval by the Governor,
25 or its otherwise becoming law.