

1 HB125  
2 207879-1  
3 By Representative Pringle  
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security  
5 First Read: 02-FEB-21  
6 PFD: 01/26/2021

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, in order to obtain a Class M license to operate a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle, a person must complete a written motorcycle test or an Alabama Traffic Safety Center/Alabama Motorcycle Safety Program, Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Basic Riders Course or Basic Riders Course II.

This bill would require a person to complete a written motorcycle test and complete a motorcycle riders course in order to obtain a Class M license to operate a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle.

This bill would not apply to any person authorized to operate a motorcycle before January 1, 2022.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1           Relating to motorcycles; to amend Sections 32-5A-240  
2 and 32-12-22, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide further for the  
3 requirements to operate a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

7           "§32-5A-240.

8           "(a) Subject to subsection (b), each person  
9 operating a motorcycle shall be granted all of the rights and  
10 shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver  
11 of any other vehicle under this chapter, except as to special  
12 regulations in this article and except as to those provisions  
13 of this chapter which by their nature can have no application.

14           "(b) ~~(1)~~ Each person operating a motorcycle on any  
15 public road, street, or highway in this state shall do all of  
16 the following:

17           "(1) have successfully passed Pass a written  
18 motorcycle test designated by the Alabama State Law  
19 Enforcement Agency. ~~and shall have a~~

20           "(2) Have a motorcycle Class M displayed on his or  
21 her driver's license along with the regular class of the  
22 license or have been issued a Class M motorcycle license.

23           "~~(2) A person may also obtain the Class M license by~~  
24 ~~successfully completing a written motorcycle test designated~~  
25 ~~by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency or by completing~~ (3)  
26 Complete an Alabama Traffic Safety Center/Alabama Motorcycle  
27 Safety Program, Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Basic Riders

1 Course or Basic ~~Rider~~ Riders Course II, or a substantially  
2 equivalent motorcycle riders course approved by the Alabama  
3 State Law Enforcement Agency.

4 "~~(3)~~ (c) A person 17 years of age or younger  
5 operating a motorcycle shall be subject to the operating  
6 hours, exceptions, and suspensions provided in Section  
7 32-6-7.2.

8 "(d) This section does not apply to a person who has  
9 obtained a license to operate a motorcycle prior to January 1,  
10 2022.

11 "§32-12-22.

12 "(a) A person operating a motor-driven cycle with a  
13 Class M motorcycle license with a motor-driven cycle  
14 restriction, a motorcycle Class M displayed on the person's  
15 regular license, or a Class M motorcycle license shall be  
16 granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the  
17 duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under  
18 Chapter 6 of this title, except as to special regulations in  
19 this article and those provisions of this chapter which by  
20 their nature can have no application.

21 "(b) ~~(1)~~ A Class M motorcycle license with a  
22 motor-driven cycle restriction shall be issued to any person  
23 14 years and older ~~if the person has~~ who satisfies both of the  
24 following:

25 "(1) ~~passed~~ Has passed a motorcycle knowledge test  
26 designated by the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency.

1           ~~"or if the individual has successfully~~ (2) Has  
2 completed an Alabama Traffic Safety Center/Alabama Motorcycle  
3 Safety Program, Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Basic Riders  
4 Course or Basic Riders Course II, or a substantially  
5 equivalent motorcycle riders course approved by the Alabama  
6 State Law Enforcement Agency.

7           ~~"(2)(c)~~ A person 17 years of age or younger  
8 operating a motor-driven cycle shall be subject to the  
9 operating hours, exceptions, and suspensions provided in  
10 Section 32-6-7.2.

11           ~~"(c)(d)~~ This section ~~and the portion of Section~~  
12 ~~32-5A-240 amended by Act 2015-223 do~~ does not apply to a  
13 person who has obtained a license to operate a motorcycle or a  
14 motor-driven cycle prior to January 1, ~~2016~~ 2022."

15           Section 2. This act shall become effective January  
16 1, 2022, following its passage and approval by the Governor,  
17 or its otherwise becoming law.