

1 HB37  
2 215239-1  
3 By Representatives Meadows, McMillan and Ledbetter  
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security  
5 First Read: 11-JAN-22  
6 PFD: 12/07/2021

8 SYNOPSIS: Existing law provides for the operation of  
9 an autocycle and equipment required for legal  
10 operation.

11 This bill would further provide for the  
12 operation of an autocycle and would require the  
13 vehicle to be equipped with a roll cage or roll  
14 hoops, brakes that meet certain federal  
15 requirements, and a steering wheel or steering  
16 mechanism.

17 Existing law requires the operator of a  
18 motorcycle to wear protective headgear.

19 This bill would exempt the operator of an  
20 autocycle from protective headgear equipment  
21 requirements.

22  
23 A BILL  
24 TO BE ENTITLED  
25 AN ACT  
26

1                   Relating to motor vehicles; to amend Section  
2                   32-6A-1, Code of Alabama 1975, to further provide for the  
3                   requirements of autocycles; and to amend Section 32-5A-245,  
4                   Code of Alabama 1975, to exempt autocycles from certain  
5                   equipment requirements.

6                   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

7                   Section 1. Sections 32-6A-1 and 32-5A-245, Code of  
8                   Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

9                   "§32-6A-1.

10                  "(a) For the purposes of this chapter, an  
11                  "autocycle" means a motor vehicle that is designed to travel  
12                  with three wheels on the ground~~;~~ is equipped with a steering  
13                  wheel or steering mechanism, a roll cage or roll hoops, a seat  
14                  belt for each occupant, brakes that meet the requirements of  
15                  Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 122, and equipped  
16                  ~~with~~ seating that does not require the operator to straddle or  
17                  sit astride the seat~~;~~ and is manufactured and certified to  
18                  comply with the applicable federal safety requirements for a  
19                  ~~motorcycle including, but not limited to, Part 571 of Title~~  
20                  ~~49, Code of Federal Regulations~~ motorcycle safety standards  
21                  under 49 C.F.R. Part 571 by a manufacturer registered with the  
22                  National Highway Transportation Safety Administration.

23                  "(b) The operator of an autocycle shall be required  
24                  to have a regular driver's license and shall not be required  
25                  to have a Class M displayed on his or her driver's license or  
26                  a Class M motorcycle license.

1           "~~(c) An autocycle shall be equipped with a seat~~  
2 ~~belt, and the~~ The operator of an autocycle shall be subject to  
3 the requirements of the seat belt law when operating the  
4 vehicle.

5           "(d) For the purposes of this title and Title 40, an  
6 autocycle shall be registered, taxed, and titled in the same  
7 manner as a motorcycle and shall otherwise be considered a  
8 motorcycle for the purposes of this title and Title 40.

9           "(e) A person 17 years of age or younger operating  
10 an autocycle shall be subject to the operating hours,  
11 exceptions, and suspensions provided in Section 32-6-7.2.

12           "§32-5A-245.

13           "(a) No person shall operate or ride upon a  
14 motorcycle or motor-driven cycle unless he or she is wearing  
15 protective headgear which complies with standards established  
16 by Section 32-12-41.

17           "(b) No person shall operate or ride upon a  
18 motorcycle or motor-driven cycle unless he or she is wearing  
19 shoes.

20           "(c) (1) This section shall not apply to persons  
21 riding within an enclosed cab.

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

24           "~~(d) The Director of Public Safety is hereby~~  
25 ~~authorized to~~ Secretary of the Alabama State Law Enforcement  
26 Agency may approve or disapprove protective headgear, and ~~to~~  
27 ~~issue~~ may adopt and enforce ~~regulations~~ rules establishing

1 standards and specifications for the approval thereof. The  
2 ~~Director of Public Safety~~ secretary shall publish lists of all  
3 protective headgear which have been approved by him or her.

4 "(e) No person shall knowingly permit or allow any  
5 juvenile for whom he or she is a parent or guardian to operate  
6 or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle while not  
7 wearing a protective helmet of the kind authorized by Section  
8 32-12-41.

9 "(f) No person shall knowingly permit or allow any  
10 juvenile for whom he or she is a parent or guardian to operate  
11 or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle while not  
12 wearing shoes.

13 "(g) No manufacturer, retailer or other person shall  
14 sell or offer for sale motorcycle helmets that fail to comply  
15 with the standards established by the ~~Director of Public~~  
16 ~~Safety~~ Secretary of the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency  
17 pursuant to this section.

18 Section 2. This act shall become on the first day of  
19 the third month following its passage and approval by the  
20 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.