

SB238 INTRODUCED



1 SB238
2 NR1Y3TT-1
3 By Senator Singleton
4 RFD: Judiciary
5 First Read: 29-Jan-26



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4 SYNOPSIS:

5 An autocycle is a type of motor vehicle with
6 three wheels.

7 Under existing law, an individual operating an
8 autocycle is exempt from motorcycle protective gear
9 requirements when operating the vehicle.

10 This bill would require the operator of an
11 autocycle to wear protective headgear and shoes in
12 compliance with motorcycle protective gear requirements
13 when operating or riding in the autocycle.

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16 A BILL

17 TO BE ENTITLED

18 AN ACT

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20 Relating to motor vehicles; to amend Sections 32-6A-1
21 and 32-5A-245, Code of Alabama 1975, to require autocycle
22 operators to wear protective headgear and shoes.

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

26 "§32-6A-1

27 (a) For the purposes of this chapter, an "autocycle"
28 means a motor vehicle that is designed to travel with three



wheels on the ground; is equipped with a steering wheel or steering mechanism, a roll cage or roll hoops, a seat belt for each occupant, brakes that meet the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 122, and seating that does not require the operator to straddle or sit astride the seat; and is manufactured and certified to comply with the applicable federal motorcycle safety standards under 49 C.F.R. Part 571 by a manufacturer registered with the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration.

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

(c) The operator of an autocycle shall be subject to the seat belt requirements ~~of the seat belt law~~ provided in Section 32-5B-4 and the motorcycle protective gear equipment requirements provided in Section 32-5A-245 when operating the vehicle.

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

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

§32-5A-245

(a) ~~No person~~ individual shall operate or ride upon a



57 motorcycle or motor-driven cycle unless he or she is wearing
58 protective headgear that complies with standards established
59 by Section 32-12-41.

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

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

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

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

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

78 (f) ~~No~~person individual shall knowingly permit or
79 allow any juvenile for whom he or she is a parent or guardian
80 to operate or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle
81 while not wearing shoes.

82 (g) No manufacturer, retailer, or other person shall
83 sell or offer for sale motorcycle helmets that fail to comply
84 with the standards established by the Secretary of the Alabama

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85 State Law Enforcement Agency pursuant to this section."

86 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
87 1, 2026.