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ALABAMA - "No person shall operate or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle unless he is wearing **protective headgear** which complies with standards established by section 32-12-41."

ALASKA - Chapter 35. Miscellaneous Provisions. Article 5. Miscellaneous Offenses. Sec. 28.35.245 Motorcycle Helmets.:

" . . . (b) A person who is 18 years of age or older may not be required to wear a **helmet** while operating a motorcycle if the person is the holder of a license or endorsement to operate a motorcycle."(Approved by the Governor: June 25, 1996.)

ARIZONA - Title 28. Transportation Chapter 6. Uniform Act Regulating Traffic On Highways. Article 16. Equipment. Section 28-964. Motorcycles; motor driven cycles; equipment; exception; prohibition:

"A. An operator or passenger of a motorcycle or motor driven cycle who is under eighteen years of age shall wear at all times a **protective helmet** on the operator's or passenger's head in an appropriate manner that is safely secured while operating or riding on the motorcycle or motor driven cycle. . . ."

ARKANSAS - Chapter 20, Operation of Motorized Cycles; Subchapter 1. Motorcycles, motor-driven cycles, and motorized bicycles; Section 27-20-104 Standard equipment required . . . (b) :

"All passengers and operators of motorcycles and motor-driven cycles used upon the public streets and highways of this state shall be equipped with the following equipment under standards set forth by the Office of Motor Vehicle of the State of Arkansas:

- (1) **Protective headgear** unless the person is twenty-one (21) years of age or older; and
- (2) Protective glasses, goggles, or transparent face shields.

COLORADO - (No helmet law.) "Fact that, as an alternative to statute requiring motorcyclists to wear **protective headgear**, legislature might have required motorcycle manufacturers to place windshields on motorcycles did not affect constitutionality of statute." Love v. Bell , 1970, 465 P.2d 118, 171 Colo. 27.

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CONNECTICUT - Title 14. Motor Vehicles. Use of the Highway by Vehicles. Section 14-249. **Protective headgear** for motorcyclists and passengers under eighteen years old.

"(a) On and after January 1, 1990, no person under eighteen years of age may operate a motorcycle, as defined in section 14-1, and no person under the age of eighteen may be a passenger on a motorcycle, unless such person is wearing **protective headgear** of a type which conforms to the minimum specifications established by regulations adopted under subsection (b) of this section. (See "Standards" below.)

(c) . . . Any operator or passenger of a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle who is under eighteen years of age shall at all times, while operating or riding on such motorcycle or motor-driven cycle, wear a **protective helmet** on his head in an appropriate manner safely secured."

DELAWARE - Part III. Operation and Equipment. Chapter 41. Rules of the Road. Subchapter XI. Miscellaneous Rules. Section 4185:

" . . . (b) Every person operating or riding on a motorcycle shall have in that person's possession a **safety helmet** approved by the Secretary of Public Safety and shall wear eye protection approved by the Secretary; provided, however, that every person up to 19 years of age operating or riding on a motorcycle shall wear a safety helmet and eye protection approved by the Secretary."

FLORIDA - 316.211. Equipment for motorcycle and moped riders

(3) (a) This section does not apply to persons riding within an enclosed cab or to any person 16 years of age or older who is operating or riding upon a motorcycle powered by a motor with a displacement of 50 cubic centimeters or less or is rated not in excess of 2 brake horsepower and which is not capable of propelling such motorcycle at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour on level ground.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a person over 21 years of age may operate or ride upon a motorcycle without wearing **protective headgear** securely fastened upon his or her head if such person is covered by an insurance policy providing for at least \$10,000 in medical benefits for injuries incurred as a result of a crash while operating or riding on a motorcycle.

(4) No person under 16 years of age shall operate or ride upon a moped unless the person is properly wearing **protective headgear** securely fastened upon his or her head which complies with standards established by the department.

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GEORGIA - Title 40. Motor Vehicles and Traffic. Chapter 6. Uniform Rules of the Road. Article 13. Special Provisions for Certain Vehicles. Part 2. Motorcycles. Section 40-6-315 **Headgear** and eye-protective devices for riders. :

"(a) No person shall operate or ride upon a motorcycle unless he is wearing **protective headgear** which complies with standards established by the Board of Public Safety. . . ."

HAWAII - Division 1. Government. Title 17. Motor and Other Vehicles. Chapter 286. Highway Safety. Part IV. Safety Equipment. Section 286-81. motorcycle, motor scooter, etc.; protective devices. :

"No person shall:

"(1) Operate a motorcycle or motor scooter, on any highway in the State unless the person and any passenger the person carries on the motorcycle or motor scooter wears (A) safety glasses, goggles, or a face shield, in the case of a motorcycle or motor scooter that is not equipped with windscreens or windshields; and (B) any other protective devices, other than a **safety helmet**, required by rules and regulations adopted by the state director of transportation. . . .

"(3) . . . No person less than eighteen years of age shall operate or ride as a passenger on a motorcycle or motor scooter on any highway in the State unless the person wears a **safety helmet** securely fastened with a chin strap."

IDAHO - Title 49. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 6. Rules of the Road. Section 49-666 : (666?)

"No person under eighteen (18) years of age shall ride upon a motorcycle as operator or passenger, upon any highway, unless at all times when so operating or riding upon the vehicle he is wearing, as part of his motorcycle equipment, a protective safety **helmet** of a type and quality equal to or better than the standards established for helmets by the director."

ILLINOIS - (No helmet law.) "Paragraph (a) (now deleted) of former Section 189c of former chapter 95 1/2 (now this section) requiring operators of motorcycles and every passenger thereon to wear **protective headgear** had as its purpose the safeguarding of the person wearing the **headgear** and involves essentially matter of personal safety and was beyond police power of legislature and is violative of U.S.C.A.Const. Amend. 14." People v. Fries , 1969, 42 Ill.2d 446, 250 N.E.2d 149.

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INDIANA - Title 9. Motor Vehicles. Article 19. Motor Vehicle Equipment. Chapter 7. Motorcycle Equipment. 9-19-7-1 Minors; protective headgear and face shields. Section 1. :

"An Individual less than eighteen (18) years of age who is operating or riding on a motorcycle shall do the following:

"(1) Wear **protective headgear** meeting the minimum standards set by the bureau.

"(2) Wear protective glasses, goggles, or transparent face shields."

KANSAS - Chapter 8. Automobiles and Other Vehicles. Article 15. Uniform Act Regulating Traffic; Rules of the Road, Special Rules for Motorcycles. Section 8-1598. Operation of motorcycles; equipment required for operators and riders. :

"(a) No person under the age of 18 years shall operate or ride upon a motorcycle or a motorized bicycle, unless wearing a **helmet** which complies with minimum performance requirements established by the national highway traffic safety administration pursuant to the national traffic and motor vehicle safety act of 1966 for helmets designed for use by motorcyclists and other motor vehicle users."

KENTUCKY - Title XVI. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 189. Traffic Regulations; Vehicle Equipment and Storage. Section 189.285 Regulations for Operating and Riding On Motorcycles. :

. . . (3) The following persons shall be required to wear **protective headgear**, in the manner prescribed by the secretary of the Transportation Cabinet, at all times the motorcycles they are riding are in motion on a public highway:

(a) A person under the age of twenty-one (21) years who is operating a motorcycle or who is a passenger on a motorcycle or in a sidecar attachment;..."

LOUISIANA - §190. **Safety Helmets**

A.(1) No person under the age of eighteen years shall operate or ride upon any motorcycle, motor driven cycle, or motorized bicycle unless the person is equipped with and is wearing on the head a **safety helmet** of the type and design manufactured for use by operators of such vehicles, which shall be secured properly with a chin strap while the vehicle is in motion. .

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MAINE - Title 29-A. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 19. Operation. Subchapter I. Rules of the Road. Section 2083. **Protective Headgear**. 1.

Requirement. :

"The following persons must wear **protective headgear** :

"A. If under 15 years of age, a passenger on a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or an attached side car;

"B. If under 15 years of age, an operator of an off-road motorcycle or motor-driven cycle;

"C. An operator of a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle, operating under a learner's permit or within one year of successfully completing a driving test; and

"D. A passenger of an operator required to wear **headgear**."

MARYLAND - Title 21. Motor Vehicles -- Rules of the Road. Subtitle 13. Operation of Motorcycles. Section 21-1306. Equipment for Riders. . . . (b) Required **headgear**. :

"An individual may not operate or ride on a motorcycle unless the individual is wearing **protective headgear** that meets the standards established by the Administrator. . . ."

MASSACHUSETTS - Title XIV. Public Ways and Works Chapter 90. Motor Vehicles and Aircraft. Section 7. Brakes, braking systems, mufflers, horns, lights, audible warning systems, and other equipment; compliance with safety standards; stickers and emblems. :

"Every person operating a motorcycle or riding as a passenger on a motorcycle or in a sidecar attached to a motorcycle shall wear **protective head gear** conforming with such minimum standards of construction and performance as the registrar may prescribe, and no person operating a motorcycle shall permit any other person to ride as a passenger on such motorcycle or in a sidecar attached to such motorcycle unless such passenger is wearing such **protective head gear**,. . ."

MICHIGAN - Chapter VI. Obedience To and Effect of Traffic Laws. Operation of Bicycles, Motorcycles and Toy Vehicles. Section 257.658. Bicycles, motorcycles, mopeds, autocycles; operators and riders, seating, number, **crash helmets**, seat belts; rules. :

". . . (4) A person operating or riding on a motorcycle . . . on a public thoroughfare shall wear a **crash helmet** on his or her head. . . ."

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MINNESOTA - Chapter 169. Traffic Regulations -- Miscellaneous Provisions. Section 169.974 Motorcycles, motor scooters and motor bikes.

. . . :

"Subd. 2. License requirements. No person shall operate a motorcycle on any street or highway without having a valid standard driver's license with a two-wheeled vehicle endorsement as provided by law. . . . No person who is operating by virtue of a two-wheeled vehicle instruction permit shall: . . .

(d) Drive the motorcycle without wearing **protective headgear** that complies with standards established by the commissioner of public safety. .

. ." "Subd. 4. Equipment for operators and passengers.

"(a) No person under the age of 18 shall operate or ride a motorcycle on the streets and highways of this state without wearing **protective headgear** that complies with standards established by the commissioner of public safety; . . ."

MISSISSIPPI - Title 63. Motor Vehicles and Traffic Regulations. Chapter 7. Equipment and identification -- General Provisions. Section 63-7-64. Motorcycle **Crash Helmets**. :

"No person shall operate or ride upon any motorcycle or motor scooter upon the public roads or highways of this state unless such person is wearing on his or her head a **crash helmet** of the type and design inspected and approved by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. . . ."

MISSOURI - Title XIX. Motor Vehicles, Watercraft and Aviation. Chapter 302. Drivers' and Commercial Drivers' Licenses. Section 302.020.

Operation of Motor Vehicle Without Proper License Prohibited --

Motorcycles -- Special License -- **Protective Headgear** -- Penalty. :

". . . 2. Every person operating or riding as a passenger on any motorcycle or motortricycle, as defined in section 301.010, RSMo, upon any highway of this state shall wear **protective headgear** at all times the vehicle is in motion. . . ."

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MONTANA - Title 61. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 9. Vehicle Equipment. Part 4. Miscellaneous Regulations. Section 61-9-417. **Headgear** required for minor motorcycle riders. :

"An operator and passenger under 18 years of age of any motorcycle or quadricycle operated upon the streets or highways of this state shall wear **protective headgear** upon the head. . . ."

NORTH CAROLINA - Article 3. Motor Vehicle Act of 1937. Part 10. Operation of Vehicles and Rules of the Road. Section 20-140.4. :

"(a) No person shall operate a motorcycle or moped upon a highway or public vehicular area:

". . .(2) Unless the operator and all passengers thereon wear **safety helmets** of a type approved by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. . . ."

NORTH DAKOTA - Title 39. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 39-10.2.

Motorcycles. 39-10.2-06 Equipment for Motorcycle Riders. :

"1. No person under the age of eighteen years may operate or ride upon a motorcycle unless **protective headgear**, which complies with standards established by the department, is being worn on the head of the operator and rider, except when participating in a lawful parade. If the operator of a motorcycle is required to wear **protective headgear**, any passenger must also wear **protective headgear** regardless of the age of the passenger.

"2. This section does not apply to persons riding within an enclosed cab or on a golf cart.

"3. No person may operate a motorcycle if a person under the age of eighteen years is a passenger upon that motorcycle and is not wearing **protective headgear** as provided in subsection 1."

NEBRASKA - Chapter 60. Motor Vehicles. Article 6. Nebraska Rules of the Road (W) Helmets. Section 60-6, 279. **Protective helmets**; required; when.:

"A person shall not operate or be a passenger on a motorcycle or moped on any highway in this state unless such person is wearing a **protective helmet** of the type and design manufactured for use by operators of such vehicles and unless such **helmet** is secured properly on his or her head with a chin strap while the vehicle is in motion. . . ."

NEVADA - Title 43. Vehicles and Watercraft. Chapter 486. Bicycles, Motorcycles and Similar Vehicles. Operation and Equipment. Section 486.231. :

"1. The department shall adopt standards for **protective headgear** and protective glasses, goggles or face shields to be worn by the drivers and passengers of motorcycles and transparent windscreens for motorcycles.

"2. Except as provided in this section, when any motorcycle, except a trimobile or moped, is being driven on a highway, the driver and passenger shall wear **protective headgear** securely fastened on the head and protective glasses, goggles or face shields meeting those standards. Drivers and passengers of trimobiles shall wear protective glasses, goggles or face shields which meet those standards."

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Title XXI. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 265. Rules of the Road, Special Rules for Motorcycles. Section 265.122 Protective Headgear. :

I. No person less than 18 years of age may drive or ride upon a motorcycle unless he wears **protective headgear** of a type approved by the director. Such headgear shall be equipped with either a neck or chin strap.

II. The director is hereby authorized and empowered to adopt rules pursuant to RSA 260:5 covering the types of **protective headgear** and the specifications therefor and to establish and maintain a list of approved headgear which meet his established specifications.

III. If federal law is altered so that the mandatory wearing of **protective headgear** on motorcycles by persons less than 18 years of age is not required as a condition to the receipt by the state of any federal funds, paragraphs I and II shall be void.

NEW JERSEY - Title 39. Motor Vehicles and Traffic Regulations. Subtitle 1. motor Vehicle and Traffic Laws. Chapter 3. Motor Vehicles. Article 3. Equipment. Section 39:3-76.7. **Protective Helmet** of Proper Size To Be Worn By Operator and Passenger . . . :

"a. No person shall operate or ride upon a motorcycle unless he wears a securely fitted **protective helmet** of a size proper for that person and of a type approved by the director. . . ."

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NEW MEXICO - Chapter 66. Motor Vehicles. Article 7. Traffic Laws; Signs, Signals and Markings; Accidents; Weight and Size; Traffic Safety. Part 4. Traffic Laws Generally. Section 66-7-356. Mandatory Use of **Protective Helmets**. :

"A. No person under the age of eighteen shall operate a motorcycle unless he is wearing a **safety helmet** securely fastened on his head in a normal manner as **headgear** and meeting the standards specified by the director. . . . No person shall carry any passenger under the age of eighteen on any motorcycle unless the passenger is wearing a securely fastened **safety helmet**,"

NEW YORK - Chapter 71 of the Consolidated Laws. Title III--Safety Responsibility; Financial Security; Inspection; Size and Weight, and Other Provisions. Article 9--Equipment of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles. Section 381. Motorcycle Equipment. :

". . . 6. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or ride upon a motorcycle unless he wears a **protective helmet** of a type which meets the requirements set forth in section 571.218 of the federal motor vehicle safety standards as may from time to time be amended. . . ."

OHIO - Title XLV. Motor Vehicles--Aeronautics--Watercraft. Chapter 4511. Traffic laws--Operation of Motor Vehicles. Bicycles. Section 4511.53 Rules for Bicycles, Motorcycles and Snowmobiles. :

". . . No person who is under the age of eighteen years, or who holds a motorcycle operator's endorsement or license bearing a "novice" designation that is currently in effect as provided in section 4507.13 of the Revised Code, shall operate a motorcycle on a highway, or be a passenger on a motorcycle, unless wearing a **protective helmet** on his head, and no other person shall be a passenger on a motorcycle operated by such a person unless similarly wearing a **protective helmet**. . . ."

OKLAHOMA - Title 47. Motor Vehicles. Highway Safety Code. Chapter 40. Highway Safety Code Ancillaries. Section 40-105. Required Equipment. :

"The following equipment shall be required on all motorcycles and all motor scooters except on actual trail rides conducted outside of public roads and highways:

"G. **Headgear**: No person under eighteen (18) years of age shall operate or ride upon any vehicle covered under this section unless such person is equipped with and wearing on the head a **crash helmet** of a type which complies with standards established by the Department of Public Safety. . . ."

OREGON - Title 59. Oregon Vehicle Code. Chapter 814. Pedestrians, passengers, Livestock, Motorcycles, Mopeds, Bicycles, Motorized Wheelchairs. Mopeds and Motorcycles. Section 814.269 Failure of motorcycle operator to wear a **motorcycle helmet**; penalty. :

"(1) A person commits the offense of failure of a motorcycle operator to wear a **motorcycle helmet** if the person operates a motorcycle and is not wearing a **motorcycle helmet**."

PENNSYLVANIA - Title 75. Vehicles. Part III. Operation of Vehicles. Chapter 35. Special Vehicles and Pedestrians. Subchapter B. Special Rules for Motorcycles. Section 3525. Protective Equipment for Motorcycle Riders. :

"(a) **Protective Headgear**.--Except as provided in subsection (d), no person shall operate or ride upon a motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle (other than a motorized pedalcycle) unless he is wearing **protective headgear** which complies with standards established by the department. . .
."

RHODE ISLAND - Title 31. Motor and Other Vehicles. Chapter 10.1. Special License for Motorcycles, Motor Scooters, and Other Motor Driven Cycles. Section 31-10.1-4. Equipment. :

". . . Any operator under the age of twenty-one (21) shall wear a **helmet** of a type approved by the administrator of motor vehicles. In addition, all new operators, regardless of age, shall be required, for a period of one year from the date of issuance of the first license pursuant to s 31-10.1-1, to wear a **helmet** of a type approved by said administrator."

SOUTH CAROLINA - Title 56. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 5. uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways. Article 29. Motorcyclists; Rights and Duties Thereof. Section 56-5-3660. **Helmets** shall be worn by operators and passengers under age twenty-one; **helmet** design; list of approved **helmets**. :

"It shall be unlawful for any person under the age of twenty-one to operate or ride upon a two-wheeled motorized vehicle unless he wears a **protective helmet** of a type approved by the department. . . ."

SOUTH DAKOTA - Title 32. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 32-20. Motorcycle Regulation. Section 32-20-4 **Protective helmet** required for minor -- Violation a misdemeanor. :

"No person under eighteen years of age may operate or ride upon a motorcycle on the public streets or highways of this state unless the person wears a **protective helmet** of a type meeting department of transportation motor vehicle safety standard 218 as in effect on January 1, 1984. No person may operate a motorcycle with any person under the age of eighteen as a passenger if the passenger is not wearing a **protective helmet**. . . ."

TENNESSEE - Title 55. Motor and Other Vehicles. Chapter 9. Equipment -- Lighting Regulations. Part 3--Required Equipment on Motorcycles and Motor Driven Cycles. Section 55-9-302. **Crash Helmet** Required For Driver and Passenger. :

"(a) The driver of a motorcycle, motorized bicycle as defined in chapter 8 of this title, or motor-driven cycle and any passenger thereon shall be required to wear a **crash helmet** of a type approved by the commissioner of safety."

TEXAS - Title 7. Vehicles and Traffic. Subtitle G. Motorcycles and All-Terrain Vehicles. Chapter 661. **Protective Headgear** for Motorcycle Operators and passengers. Section 661.003. Offenses Relating to Not Wearing **Protective Headgear**:

HEADGEAR. (a) A person commits an offense if the person:

(1) operates or rides as a passenger on a motorcycle on a public street or highway; and (2) is not wearing **protective headgear** that meets safety standards adopted by the department.

(b) A person commits an offense if the person carries on a motorcycle on a public street or highway a passenger who is not wearing **protective headgear** that meets safety standards adopted by the department.

(c) It is an exception to the application of Subsection (a) or (b) [a defense to prosecution under this section] that at the time the offense was committed, the person required to wear **protective headgear** ...

UTAH - Title 41. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 6. Traffic Rules and Regulations. Article 15. Miscellaneous Rules. Section 41-6-107.8. Motorcycle or Motor-driven Cycle -- Protective Headgear -- Closed Cab Excepted -- Specifications and Standards. :

(a) No person under the age of 18 shall operate or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle upon a public highway unless such person is wearing **protective headgear** which complies with standards established by the commissioner of public safety.

VERMONT - Title 23. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 13. Operation of Vehicles. Subchapter 14. Equipment. Article 2. Motor Vehicles Generally. Section 1256. Motorcycles--Headgear. :

No person may operate or ride upon a motorcycle upon a highway unless he wears upon his head **protective headgear** reflectorized in part and of a type approved by the commissioner. The **headgear** shall be equipped with either a neck or chin strap.

VIRGINIA - Title 46.2. Motor Vehicles. Subtitle III. Operation. chapter 8. Regulation of Traffic. Article 13. Motorcycles and Mopeds and All-Terrain Vehicles. Section 46.2-910. Motorcyclist to wear helmets, etc.; certain sales prohibited; penalty. :

"A. Every person operating a motorcycle shall wear a face shield, safety glasses or goggles, or have his motorcycle equipped with safety glass or a windshield at all times while operating the vehicle, and operators and any passengers thereon shall wear **protective helmets**. . . .

WASHINGTON - Title 46. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 46.37. Vehicle Lighting and Other Equipment. Section 46.37.530. Motorcycles, Motor-driven Cycles, or Mopeds--helmets, Other Equipment--Children--Rules. :

"(1) It is unlawful:

(c) For any person to operate or ride upon a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, or moped on a state highway, county road, or city street unless wearing upon his or her head a **protective helmet** of a type conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol except when the vehicle is an antique motor-driven cycle or automobile that is licensed as a motorcycle or when the vehicle is equipped with seat belts and roll bars approved by the state patrol. The helmet must be equipped with either a neck or chin strap which shall be fastened securely while the motorcycle or motor-driven cycle is in motion; . . .

WISCONSIN - Chapter 347. Equipment of Vehicles. Section 347.485. Protective headgear for use on Type 1 Motorcycles. :

"(1)(a) No person who holds an instructional permit under s. 343.07(4) or who is under 18 years of age may operate or ride upon a Type 1 motorcycle on any highway unless the person is wearing **protective headgear** of a type which meets the standards established for motorcycle operation in 49 CFR 571.218 and the chin strap is properly fastened.

WEST VIRGINIA - Chapter 17C. Traffic Regulations and Laws of the Road. Article 15. Equipment. Section 17C-15-44. Safety equipment and requirements for motorcyclists, motorcycles, motor-driven cycles and mopeds; motorcycle safety standards and specifications board. :

(a) No person shall operate or be a passenger on any motorcycle or motor-driven cycle unless he is wearing securely fastened on his head by either a neck or chin strap a **protective helmet** designed to deflect blows, resist penetration and spread impact forces. . . .

WYOMING - Title 31. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 5. Regulation of Traffic on Highways. Article 1. In General. Section 31-5-115. Operation of Motorcycles and Pedestrian Vehicles:

. . . (o) No minor shall operate or ride nor shall the operator permit a minor to ride upon a motorcycle unless he is wearing **protective headgear** securely fastened on his head, and of a type which complies with standards established by the superintendent. This subsection does not apply to persons riding within an enclosed cab nor to persons operating or riding a moped. This subsection only applies to motorcycles used on public highways, streets and thoroughfares. . . .