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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SPECIAL LICENSES FOR
MOTORCYCLES, MOTOR SCOOTERS, LOW-SPEED VEHICLES AND OTHER MOTOR
DRIVEN CYCLES

Introduced By: Senators Lauria, Kallman, Valverde, Pearson, DiMario, Quezada, Euer,
Ujifusa, Bell, and Bissailon

Date Introduced: January 23, 2026

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-10.1-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-10.1 entitled "Special
2 Licenses for Motorcycles, Motor Scooters, Low-Speed Vehicles and Other Motor Driven Cycles"
3 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **31-10.1-4. Required equipment.**

5 Operators of motorcycles, motor scooters, and motor-driven cycles shall use eye protection
6 of a type approved by the administrator of the division of motor vehicles when operating their
7 vehicles on streets and highways. Every motorcycle, motor scooter, and motor-driven cycle shall
8 be equipped with a rear view mirror. Any operator ~~under the age of twenty-one (21)~~ shall wear a
9 helmet of a type approved by the administrator of motor vehicles. ~~In addition, all new operators,~~
10 ~~regardless of age, shall be required, for a period of one year from the date of issuance of the first~~
11 ~~license pursuant to § 31-10.1-1, to wear a helmet of a type approved by said administrator.~~ Any
12 person deemed in violation of this provision shall be subject to the fines enumerated in § 31-41.1-
13 4, which shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of chapter 41.1 of this title. The
14 administrator of the division of motor vehicles is authorized to set forth rules and regulations
15 governing the use of other equipment on those vehicles. All fines collected under this section shall
16 be deposited in a general restricted receipt account for the use of the Rhode Island governor's office
17 on highway safety in order to promote educational and informational programs encouraging helmet
18 use.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
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- 1 This act would require all motorcycle operators to wear a helmet regardless of age.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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