

1 HB535
2 156956-1
3 By Representative Farley
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 25-FEB-14

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a person with a
9 learner's license or a driver's license may operate
10 a motorcycle and persons 14 years of age or older
11 may obtain a license to operate a motor-driven
12 cycle.

13 This bill would require the operator of a
14 motorcycle to pass a motorcycle test designated by
15 the Department of Public Safety and to have a Class
16 M designation on the person's driver's license or
17 to have a Class M motorcycle license.

18 This bill would also specify that a person
19 14 years of age or older would be required to pass
20 a knowledge test in order to obtain a Class M
21 motorcycle license with a motor-driven cycle
22 restriction.

23 This bill would also specify that a person
24 17 years of age or younger operating a motorcycle
25 or motor-driven cycle would be subject to the
26 restrictions provided in the Graduated Driver's

1 License law applicable to a driver 17 years of age
2 or younger.

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4 A BILL
5 TO BE ENTITLED
6 AN ACT
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8 Relating to the operation of motorcycles and
9 motor-driven cycles; to amend Sections 32-5A-240 and 32-12-22,
10 Code of Alabama 1975, to provide the license requirements for
11 a Class M motorcycle designation on a regular driver's license
12 and for a Class M motorcycle license; and to further provide
13 the requirements for a license to operate a motor-driven
14 cycle.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

18 "§32-5A-240.

19 "(a) Every Subject to subsection (b), each person
20 operating a motorcycle shall be granted all of the rights and
21 shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver
22 of any other vehicle under this chapter, except as to special
23 regulations in this article and except as to those provisions
24 of this chapter which by their nature can have no application.

25 "(b) Effective January 1, 2015, each person
26 operating a motorcycle on any public road, street, or highway
27 in the state shall have successfully passed a motorcycle test

1 designated by the Department of Public Safety and shall have a
2 motorcycle Class M displayed on his or her driver's license
3 along with the regular class of the license or have been
4 issued a Class M motorcycle license. Any person 17 years of
5 age or younger operating a motorcycle shall be subject to the
6 operating hours, exceptions, and suspensions provided in
7 Section 32-6-7.2.

8 "§32-12-22.

9 ~~"Every person, except a person holding a driver's~~
10 ~~license issued under authority of Chapter 6 of this title,~~
11 ~~before operating any motor-driven cycle upon a public highway~~
12 ~~in this state, shall register it with the Director of Public~~
13 ~~Safety and procure an operator's license. Operators' licenses~~
14 ~~shall be issued under and be governed by the provisions of~~
15 ~~Chapter 6 of this title; except, that such a license shall be~~
16 ~~issued to any person 14 years of age and older if such a~~
17 ~~person can satisfy the Director of Public Safety or an~~
18 ~~examining officer that he or she is competent to operate a~~
19 ~~motor-driven cycle with safety to persons and to property.~~
20 Effective January 1, 2015, each person operating a
21 motor-driven cycle with a Class M motorcycle license with a
22 motor-driven cycle restriction or a motorcycle Class M
23 displayed on the person's regular license or a Class M
24 motorcycle license shall be granted all of the rights and
25 shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver
26 of any other vehicle under Chapter 6 of this title, except as
27 to special regulations in this article and except as to those

1 provisions of this chapter which by their nature can have no
2 application. A Class M motorcycle license with a motor-driven
3 cycle restriction shall be issued to any person 14 years and
4 older if the person has passed a motorcycle knowledge test
5 designated by the Department of Public Safety. Any person 17
6 years of age or younger operating a motor-driven cycle shall
7 be subject to the operating hours, exceptions, and suspensions
8 provided in Section 32-6-7.2."

9 Section 2. This act shall become effective
10 immediately following its passage and approval by the
11 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.