

JAN 23 2015

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that county ordinances
2 may prohibit riding a skateboard upon a roadway or street. For
3 example, section 15-4.6, Revised Ordinances of the City and
4 County of Honolulu, prohibits the riding of a skateboard upon
5 any roadway.

6 Notwithstanding ordinances prohibiting skateboard use on
7 roadways and streets, the legislature finds that many young
8 people ride in violation of the law. The legislature further
9 finds that skateboard accidents on roadways and streets usually
10 result in serious injury to the rider, particularly head trauma.

11 The legislature further finds that young people riding
12 skateboards on roadways and streets should be required to wear a
13 safety helmet.

14 The purpose of this Act is require the use of a safety
15 helmet while riding a skateboard.



SECTION 2. Chapter 286, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§291C- Skateboards; helmet required. (a) No person under seventeen years of age shall operate a skateboard upon a street, bikeway, or any other public property unless that person is wearing a properly fitted and fastened helmet that has been tested by a nationally recognized agency such as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the National Safety Council, or the Children's Safety Network, and is designed to fit the user and protect against head trauma.

(b) This section shall not be construed to legalize the use of skateboards in violation of any county ordinance.

(c) As used in this section:

"Roadway" shall have the same meaning as in section 291C-1.

"Skateboard" means a short board that is on wheels and that a person stands on to move along a surface or to perform tricks.

"Street" shall have the same meaning as in section 291C-1."

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.




1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: Josh Green MD

Randy H. Bahr
~~AND~~ K.C. Wick-Agnew


Phil E. Palmer
Ed. Pivner



S.B. NO. 796

Report Title:

Highway Safety; Skateboards; Helmets

Description:

Requires persons under age seventeen to wear a helmet while riding a skateboard. Clarifies that Act does not infringe on county ordinances prohibiting skateboards on streets and roadways.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

