
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOPEDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that helmets provide
2 moped operators with protection against life-threatening
3 injuries. According to data from the department of health, from
4 2021 through 2022, there were five hundred twenty-nine injured
5 moped riders transported to Hawaii hospitals, of which sixty-
6 seven per cent were not wearing a helmet. Increasing the
7 minimum age for moped ridership and age requirement for moped
8 operators required to wear a safety helmet will improve
9 ridership safety and contribute to an overall safer environment
10 for all road users.

11 The purpose of this Act is to increase:

- 12 (1) The minimum age for moped operators from fifteen to
13 sixteen years; and
- 14 (2) The minimum age requirement for individuals prohibited
15 from operating a moped unless they wear a safety
16 helmet from eighteen to twenty-one years.



1 SECTION 2. Section 291C-195, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3 "(a) Notwithstanding section 286-81(b), no person:

4 (1) Less than [~~fifteen~~] sixteen years of age shall drive a
5 moped on a highway, street, roadway, or any other
6 public property in the State; and

7 (2) Less than [~~eighteen~~] twenty-one years of age shall
8 drive a moped unless the person wears a safety helmet
9 securely fastened with a chin strap.

10 The safety helmet shall meet the specifications and requirements
11 established by rules adopted by the director."

12 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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

15

INTRODUCED BY:  _____

JAN 14 2025



H.B. NO. 169

Report Title:

Mopeds; Age Requirement; Helmets; Highway Safety

Description:

Increases the minimum age for moped operators from fifteen to sixteen years. Increases the minimum age requirement for individuals prohibited from operating a moped unless they wear a safety helmet from eighteen to twenty-one years.

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