



Senate Fiscal Agency  
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**BILL ANALYSIS**

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Senate Bill 297 (Substitute S-1 as reported)  
Sponsor: Senator Alan L. Cropsey  
Committee: Judiciary

**CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to provide exceptions to the Code's requirement that a motorcycle operator and passenger wear an approved crash helmet.

The Code requires a person operating or riding on a motorcycle, and any person under 19 years old operating a moped on a public thoroughfare to wear a crash helmet on his or her head. Under the bill, this requirement would not apply to either of the following:

- A person at least 21 years old who either had been licensed under the Code to operate a motorcycle for at least two years or had successfully completed a motorcycle safety course as provided under the Code.
- The passenger on a motorcycle operated by a person to whom the helmet requirement would not apply, if the passenger were at least 21 years old.

(The Code requires a person under 18 years of age who is issued an original motorcycle endorsement on a driver's license to pass an examination and a motorcycle safety course. A person at least 18 years old who is issued an original motorcycle endorsement must pass an examination, but if he or she fails the examination two or more times, he or she must successfully complete a motorcycle safety course. A motorcycle safety course may be conducted by a college or university, an intermediate school district, a local school district, a law enforcement agency, any other governmental agency located in Michigan, or a private business.)

MCL 257.658

Legislative Analyst: Patrick Affholter

**FISCAL IMPACT**

To the extent that the bill would exempt certain people from wearing a crash helmet, it could decrease the number of civil infraction determinations for violations of this section, thereby decreasing fine revenue dedicated to public libraries.

If the passage of the bill led to more head injuries, Medicaid costs for the State could potentially increase.

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