

Regular Session, 2009

HOUSE BILL NO. 639

BY REPRESENTATIVE MORRIS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

MTR VEHICLE/MOTORCYCLES: Repeals the requirement to wear a helmet for certain motorcycle riders and operators

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:190(A), relative to safety helmets; to require certain motor  
3 vehicle operators to wear safety helmets; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 32:190(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §190. Safety helmets

7 A.(1) No person under the age of twenty-one years shall operate or ride upon  
8 any motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, or motorized bicycle unless the person is  
9 equipped with and is wearing on the head a safety helmet of the type and design  
10 manufactured for use by operators of such vehicles, which shall be secured properly  
11 with a chin strap while the vehicle is in motion. All such safety helmets shall consist  
12 of lining, padding, visor, and chin strap and shall meet such other specifications as  
13 shall be established by the commissioner.

14 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any person twenty-  
15 one years of age or older who chooses not to wear a helmet as provided in Paragraph  
16 (1) of this Subsection shall have "economic only" uninsured motorist liability  
17 coverage with minimum limits of one hundred thousand dollars and shall be covered  
18 by a health care plan. Said person shall furnish proof of such coverage to any law  
19 enforcement officer upon the request of such officer.

20 \* \* \*

---

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

Morris

HB No. 639

**Abstract:** Requires motorcycle operators and riders under 21 years of age to wear a safety helmet.

Present law requires that all motorcycle operators and riders wear a safety helmet.

Proposed law requires that only motorcycle operators and riders under 21 years of age wear a safety helmet.

Proposed law requires any person 21 years of age or older who chooses not to wear a helmet to have "economic only" uninsured motorist liability coverage with certain minimum limits and to provide proof of such insurance upon request of any law enforcement officer.

(Amends R.S. 32:190(A))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Requires any person 21 years of age or older who chooses not to wear a helmet to have "economic only" uninsured motorist liability coverage with certain minimum limits and to provide proof of such insurance upon request of any law enforcement officer.