

April 19, 2005

H 1289. AMEND MOTORCYCLE HELMET LAW. TO MODIFY THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE USE OF HELMETS BY OPERATORS AND PASSENGERS ON MOTORCYCLES AND TO ADJUST THE FEE ON PRIVATE MOTORCYCLE REGISTRATIONS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE MOTORCYCLE SAFETY PROGRAM. Amends GS 20-140.4 by reorganizing section and providing that a person over 21 years old may operate a motorcycle without a helmet if the operator: (1) held a motorcycle license or endorsement prior to October 1, 2004; or (2) is licensed for more than 12 months, has successfully completed the Motorcycle Safety Instruction Program or its equivalent, and is covered by an insurance policy providing at least \$10,000 in medical benefits for injuries sustained in a motorcycle crash. Also permits a passenger over 21 years old to ride a motorcycle without a helmet if the operator is not required to wear a helmet and the passenger is also covered by an insurance policy with at least \$10,000 in medical benefits. Replaces GS 20-87(6) with new GS 20-87(13), which increases the base registration fee for private passenger motorcycles from \$9 to \$14 and for a motorcycle equipped with additional transport device from \$16 to \$21. Eliminates additional \$3 fee that was used to fund the Motorcycle Safety Instruction Program and provides instead that \$5 of the base fees are used to fund program. Applies to violations occurring on or after December 1, 2005.

Intro. by Sauls.

Ref. to Finance

GS 20