

# As Introduced

129th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2011-2012

H. B. No. 316

Representatives Rosenberger, Landis

Cosponsors: Representatives Brenner, Bupp, Butler, Gerberry, Gonzales,  
Johnson, Letson

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## A B I L L

To amend section 4511.53 of the Revised Code to 1  
permit motorcycle handlebars to be of any height 2  
so long as the height does not adversely affect 3  
the ability of the operator to operate the 4  
motorcycle safely. 5

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

**Section 1.** That section 4511.53 of the Revised Code be 6  
amended to read as follows: 7

**Sec. 4511.53.** (A) For purposes of this section, "snowmobile" 8  
has the same meaning as given that term in section 4519.01 of the 9  
Revised Code. 10

(B) No person operating a bicycle shall ride other than upon 11  
or astride the permanent and regular seat attached thereto or 12  
carry any other person upon such bicycle other than upon a firmly 13  
attached and regular seat thereon, and no person shall ride upon a 14  
bicycle other than upon such a firmly attached and regular seat. 15

No person operating a motorcycle shall ride other than upon 16  
or astride the permanent and regular seat or saddle attached 17  
thereto, or carry any other person upon such motorcycle other than 18

upon a firmly attached and regular seat or saddle thereon, and no 19  
person shall ride upon a motorcycle other than upon such a firmly 20  
attached and regular seat or saddle. 21

No person shall ride upon a motorcycle that is equipped with 22  
a saddle other than while sitting astride the saddle, facing 23  
forward, with one leg on each side of the motorcycle. 24

No person shall ride upon a motorcycle that is equipped with 25  
a seat other than while sitting upon the seat. 26

No person operating a bicycle shall carry any package, 27  
bundle, or article that prevents the driver from keeping at least 28  
one hand upon the ~~handle bars~~ handlebars. 29

No bicycle or motorcycle shall be used to carry more persons 30  
at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped, 31  
~~nor shall any.~~ No motorcycle shall be operated on a highway when 32  
the ~~handle bars~~ handlebars or grips are ~~more than fifteen inches~~ 33  
~~higher than the seat or saddle for~~ at a height that adversely 34  
affects the ability of the operator to operate the motorcycle 35  
safely and the operator, when the motorcycle is not in motion and 36  
while keeping both hands on the grips, is not able to turn the 37  
front wheel or wheels at least forty-five degrees to both the left 38  
and right directions. 39

No person shall operate or be a passenger on a snowmobile or 40  
motorcycle without using safety glasses or other protective eye 41  
device. No person who is under the age of eighteen years, or who 42  
holds a motorcycle operator's endorsement or license bearing a 43  
"novice" designation that is currently in effect as provided in 44  
section 4507.13 of the Revised Code, shall operate a motorcycle on 45  
a highway, or be a passenger on a motorcycle, unless wearing a 46  
protective helmet on the person's head, and no other person shall 47  
be a passenger on a motorcycle operated by such a person unless 48  
similarly wearing a protective helmet. The helmet, safety glasses, 49

or other protective eye device shall conform with rules adopted by 50  
the director of public safety. The provisions of this paragraph or 51  
a violation thereof shall not be used in the trial of any civil 52  
action. 53

(C)(1) No person shall operate a motorcycle with a valid 54  
temporary instruction permit and temporary instruction permit 55  
identification card issued by the registrar of motor vehicles 56  
pursuant to section 4507.05 of the Revised Code unless the person, 57  
at the time of such operation, is wearing on the person's head a 58  
protective helmet that conforms with rules adopted by the 59  
director. 60

(2) No person shall operate a motorcycle with a valid 61  
temporary instruction permit and temporary instruction permit 62  
identification card issued by the registrar pursuant to section 63  
4507.05 of the Revised Code in any of the following circumstances: 64

(a) At any time when lighted lights are required by division 65  
(A)(1) of section 4513.03 of the Revised Code; 66

(b) While carrying a passenger; 67

(c) On any limited access highway. 68

(D) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting 69  
the carrying of a child in a seat or trailer that is designed for 70  
carrying children and is firmly attached to the bicycle. 71

(E) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 72  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within 73  
one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 74  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 75  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 76  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 77  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more 78  
predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this 79  
section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. 80

<b>Section 2.</b> That existing section 4511.53 of the Revised Code	81
is hereby repealed.	82