# Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

## **Transportation Committee**

### **HB 1255**

**Brief Description:** Concerning motorcycle steering equipment requirements.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Orcutt and Sutherland.

#### **Brief Summary of Bill**

• Exempts a motorcycle driver from the requirement to wear a helmet if the motorcycle is equipped with a steering wheel or handlebars, seat belts meeting federal safety standards, and a partially or completely enclosed seating area which has been federally certified as crush proof.

#### **Hearing Date:**

Staff: Beth Redfield (786-7140).

#### **Background:**

Motorcycle drivers are required to wear a helmet when operating the motorcycle on a state highway, county road, or city street. The requirement does not apply if the motorcycle is antique or the motorcycle is equipped with all of the following: a steering wheel, seat belts meeting federal safety standards, and a partially or completely enclosed seating area which has been federally certified as crush proof.

#### **Summary of Bill:**

The motorcycle helmet requirement would not apply if a motorcycle is equipped with a steering wheel or handlebars and also meets the requirements regarding safety belts and a crush proof, enclosed seating area.

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 25, 2021.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is

passed.

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