
SENATE BILL 6030

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By Senators West, Johnson and Bailey

Read first time 01/13/92. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to prevention of head injuries by requiring the
2 wearing of bicycle helmets; and adding a new section to chapter 46.61
3 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.61 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) It is unlawful:

8 (a) For a person under the age of sixteen to operate or ride upon
9 a bicycle or other human-powered cycle on a state highway, county road,
10 city street, public bicycle path or trail, or public sidewalk adjacent
11 to the foregoing unless the person is wearing a protective helmet of a
12 type required by the state patrol. The state patrol shall adopt rules
13 requiring bicycle helmets to meet the standards for bicycle helmets
14 developed by the American National Standards Institute, the Snell

1 Memorial Foundation, or other nationally recognized organization that
2 has standards for bicycle helmets. The helmet must be equipped with
3 either a neck or chin strap which is fastened securely while the person
4 is operating the cycle;

5 (b) For a person to transport a person under the age of sixteen on
6 a bicycle or other human-powered cycle on a state highway, county road,
7 city street, public sidewalk adjacent to the foregoing, or public
8 bicycle path or trail unless the person transported is wearing a helmet
9 that meets the requirements in (a) of this subsection;

10 (c) For the guardian of a person under the age of sixteen to
11 knowingly allow that person to operate or ride on a bicycle or other
12 human-powered cycle on a state highway, county road, city street,
13 public sidewalk adjacent to the foregoing, or public bicycle path or
14 trail unless that person is wearing a helmet that meets the
15 requirements in (a) of this subsection. For the purpose of this
16 subsection, "guardian" means a parent, legal guardian, temporary
17 guardian including a babysitter, or other person who maintains
18 responsibility, whether voluntary or otherwise, for the safety and
19 welfare of a person under the age of sixteen;

20 (d) For a person to sell or offer for sale a bicycle helmet that
21 does not meet the requirements established by the state patrol;

22 (e) For a person to rent a bicycle or human-powered cycle if that
23 person knows the bicycle will be used by someone under the age of
24 sixteen who does not possess a helmet that meets the requirements of
25 the state patrol. The person renting the bicycle or cycle shall be
26 reasonably satisfied that the user will operate or ride upon the cycle
27 while wearing a helmet in the manner described in (a) of this
28 subsection. For the purposes of this subsection, a person who rents
29 bicycles or cycles shall ask the age of the person who will operate or
30 ride the cycles.

1 (2) The state patrol shall adopt rules to implement this section.