SLS 16RS-231

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 50

BY SENATOR GARY SMITH

MOTOR VEHICLES. Amends definition of autocycle applicable to operator's helmet exemption and driver's license endorsement requirement. (8/1/16)

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 32:1(1.1), 190(D), 401(2), and 408(C)(3), relative to autocycles;
3	to amend the definition of autocycle applicable to operators and passengers for a
4	helmet exemption; to amend the definition of autocycle applicable for an exemption
5	for certain driver's license endorsements for operators; and to provide for related
6	matters.
7	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
8	Section 1. R.S. 32:1(1.1), 190(D), 401(2), and 408(C)(3) are hereby amended and
9	reenacted to read as follows:
10	§1. Definitions
11	When used in this Chapter, the following words and phrases have the
12	meanings ascribed to them in this Section, unless the context clearly indicates a
13	different meaning:
14	* * *
15	(1.1)(a) "Autocycle" means an enclosed motorcycle that is equipped with
16	safety belts, rollbar or roll cage, windshield wipers, steering wheel, and equipment
17	otherwise required on a motorcycle and that has no more than three wheels in contact

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1	with the roadway at any one time a three-wheeled motorcycle on which the driver
2	and all passengers ride in either a completely enclosed seating area or in a side-
3	by-side seating area that is equipped with a rollbar or roll cage, safety belts for
4	all occupants, and is designed to be controlled with a steering wheel and pedals.
5	(b) For purposes of this Paragraph, "rollbar" or "roll cage" shall mean a
6	hardtop enclosure protecting occupants from the elements supports that will support
7	bear the vehicle's weight and is are so designed as to protect the occupants when the
8	vehicle is resting on this enclosure the supports.
9	* * *
10	§190. Safety helmets
11	* * *
12	D. This Section does not apply to a person operating or riding in an autocycle
13	if the vehicle is equipped with a roof supports that meets meet or exceeds exceed
14	the standards for a safety helmet or a rollbar or roll cage. As used in this
15	Subsection, "rollbar" or "roll cage" shall mean a hardtop enclosure protecting
16	occupants from the elements supports that will support bear the vehicle's weight
17	and is are so designed as to protect the occupants when the vehicle is resting on this
18	enclosure the supports.
19	* * *
20	§401. Definitions
21	The following words and phrases when used in this Chapter shall have the
22	meaning herein assigned unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:
23	* * *
24	(2)(a) "Autocycle" means a three-wheeled motorcycle on which the driver
25	and all passengers ride in <u>either</u> a completely enclosed seating area or in a side-by-
26	side seating area that is equipped with a rollbar or roll cage, safety belts for all
27	occupants, airbag protection, antilock brakes, and is designed to be controlled with
28	a steering wheel and pedals.
29	(b) For purposes of this Paragraph, <u>"rollbar" or</u> "roll cage" shall mean a

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1	hardtop enclosure protecting occupants from the elements supports that will support
2	bear the vehicle's weight and is are so designed as to protect the occupants when the
3	vehicle is resting on this enclosure the supports.
4	* * *
5	§408. Examination of applicants required; classes of licenses
6	* * *
7	С.
8	* * *
9	(3) The provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall not apply to
10	autocycles as defined by R.S. 32:401(24) 32:401(2). As such, the operation of an
11	autocycle shall not require a special endorsement but shall only require require only
12	that the operator hold a valid driver's license.
13	* * *

The original instrument was prepared by Sharon F. Lyles. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Tammy Crain-Waldrop.

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<u>Present law</u> defines "autocycle" to mean an enclosed motorcycle that is equipped with safety belts, rollbar or roll cage, windshield wipers, steering wheel, and equipment otherwise required on a motorcycle and that has no more than three wheels in contact with the roadway at any one time.

<u>Proposed law</u> changes the definition of "autocycle" to mean a three-wheeled motorcycle on which the driver and all passengers ride in either a completely enclosed seating area or in a side-by-side seating area that is equipped with a rollbar or roll cage, safety belts for all occupants, and is designed to be controlled with a steering wheel and pedals.

<u>Present law</u> defines "roll cage" as used in the definition of "autocycle" to mean a hardtop enclosure protecting occupants from the elements that will support the vehicle's weight and is designed to protect the occupants when the vehicle is resting on this enclosure.

<u>Proposed law</u> changes the definition of "roll cage" used in the definition of "autocycle" to mean a support that will bear the vehicle's weight and is designed to protect the occupants when the vehicle is resting on this support.

<u>Present law</u> exempts persons operating or riding in an autocycle with a roof that meets or exceeds standards from having to wear a safety helmet. Also, defines "roll cage" in the context of autocycles for which the exemption applies.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> but changes "roof" to "support" and changes definition of "roll cage" in the context of an autocycle for which the exemption applies to mean a support

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that will bear the vehicle's weight and is so designed as to protect the occupants when the vehicle is resting on this support.

<u>Present law</u> exempts operators of autocycles with certain features from requirement to obtain a special endorsement on their driver's license.

<u>Proposed law</u> changes definition of "autocycle" in the context of an autocycle for which a special endorsement exemption applies to change seating area from a "completely enclosed" to a "side-by-side" seating area and to remove from the definition requirements for "airbag protection" and "antilock brakes".

<u>Proposed law</u> further changes the definition of "roll cage" as used in the definition of "autocycle" to mean a support that will bear the vehicle's weight and is so designed as to protect the occupants when the vehicle is resting on this support.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 32:1(1.1), 190(D), 401(2) and 408(C)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

- 1. Makes Legislative Bureau amendment.
- 2. Changes definition of "autocycle".