



ADVOCATES
FOR HIGHWAY
& AUTO SAFETY

Vote NO on HB 317 - Retain Helmet Law, Prevent Motorcycle Rider Fatalities and Injuries

The Dangerous, Deadly and Costly Problem:

- Motorcycles are the most hazardous form of motor vehicle transportation, and fatalities are rising. In 2021, 5,932 motorcyclists were killed in the U.S., the most on record. 81 of these were in Louisiana.
- Motorcycle riders are nearly 28 times more likely to die in a crash than people in passenger vehicles.
- Annually, U.S. motorcycle crashes cause nearly \$17 billion in economic impacts and \$107 billion in societal harm. Conversely, motorcycle helmets prevented \$21.2 billion in societal harm costs.
- In states with an all-rider motorcycle helmet law, use of a helmet saved society \$725 in economic costs per registered motorcycle, compared with \$198 per registered motorcycle in states without such a law.

The Solution: Preserve Louisiana's Lifesaving All-Rider Helmet Law

- Louisiana has repealed its all-rider helmet law in the past only to reverse course due to sharp declines in helmet use.
- After reinstatement of the universal helmet law, helmet use doubled. Fatalities were 30 percent less likely and fatal/severe crashes decreased 46 percent.
- Other states experienced similarly negative results after repeal. In Michigan motorcycle deaths have risen 60 percent since 2011. In Missouri helmetless motorcycle rider deaths increased 567 percent from the last year the all-rider law was in effect to the first full year without the law.
- There is no scientific evidence that motorcycle rider training reduces crash risk.
- "Minors only" helmet laws are ineffective and unenforceable. Serious traumatic brain injury among youth was 38 percent higher in states with age-specific laws compared to states with all-rider helmet laws.
- HB 317 would also downgrade the law to secondary enforcement which is not as effective as primary enforcement and inserts uncertainty into traffic safety law enforcement.
- According to research, laws requiring all motorcyclists to wear helmets are the only strategy proven to be effective in reducing motorcyclist fatalities.
- Helmets are irreplaceable as they reduce the risk of head injury by 69 percent and risk of death by 42 percent.

Oppose HB 317 - Keep riders on Louisiana roads safe!