

**House File 2233 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2233

BY BROWN-POWERS, STAED, and  
MATSON

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring minors to wear helmets while riding  
2 motorcycles and motorized bicycles, and providing penalties.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.275, Code 2020, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 9. *Helmets required for minors.*

4 a. A person under eighteen years of age shall not operate  
5 a motorcycle or motorized bicycle on the highways unless the  
6 person is wearing a safety helmet.

7 b. A person shall not operate a motorcycle or motorized  
8 bicycle on the highways accompanied by a passenger under  
9 eighteen years of age unless the passenger is wearing a safety  
10 helmet.

11 c. For purposes of this subsection, "*wearing a safety*  
12 *helmet*" means having a safety helmet that complies with the  
13 standards and specifications established in 49 C.F.R. §571.218  
14 on the person's head that is fastened with the helmet straps  
15 and that is of a size that fits the person's head securely  
16 without excessive lateral or vertical movement. The department  
17 shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A establishing  
18 guidelines for approved safety helmets and shall maintain and  
19 publish a list of approved safety helmets. The list need not  
20 be inclusive.

21 Sec. 2. Section 805.8A, subsection 6, paragraph b, Code  
22 2020, is amended to read as follows:

23 b. Section 321.275, subsections 1  
24 through 7, and 9.....\$ 35.

25 EXPLANATION

26 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
27 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

28 This bill prohibits a person under 18 years of age from  
29 operating a motorcycle or motorized bicycle on the highways  
30 unless the person is wearing a safety helmet. The bill also  
31 prohibits any person from operating a motorcycle or motorized  
32 bicycle on the highways accompanied by a passenger under 18  
33 years of age unless the passenger is wearing a safety helmet.  
34 The bill provides that a violation of these provisions is  
35 punishable by a scheduled fine of \$35.

H.F. 2233

1 Under the bill, "wearing a safety helmet" means having  
2 a safety helmet that complies with the standards and  
3 specifications established in the Code of Federal Regulations  
4 on the person's head that is fastened with the helmet straps  
5 and that is of a size that fits the person's head securely  
6 without excessive lateral or vertical movement.