

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**HOUSE BILL**  
**No. 1160** Session of  
1987

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS, BOWSER, SHOWERS, GODSHALL AND CLYMER,  
APRIL 27, 1987

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, APRIL 27, 1987

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, further providing for motorcycle education and  
3 licensure, for the use of protective headgear and for  
4 department-sponsored rider safety courses.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Sections 1504(d)(5), 1508(a), 3525(a) and 7911 of  
8 Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended  
9 to read:

10 § 1504. Classes of licenses.

11 \* \* \*

12 (d) Number and description of classes.--Licenses issued by  
13 the department shall be classified in the following manner:

14 \* \* \*

15 (5) Class 5.--Those persons who have demonstrated their  
16 qualifications to operate a motorcycle, shall have that  
17 qualification endorsed on one of the basic classes of license  
18 described in this section. If a person is qualified only to

1 operate a motorcycle he shall be issued a license with only  
2 that qualification endorsed on the license. After July 1,  
3 1987, no person shall receive an initial Class 5 endorsement  
4 until that person presents satisfactory evidence of  
5 completion of the motorcycle education courses under section  
6 7911 (relating to motorcycle safety education program). On  
7 and after July 1, 1989, this requirement shall extend to any  
8 person applying for a renewal of a Class 5 endorsement.

9 \* \* \*

10 § 1508. Examination of applicant for driver's license.

11 (a) General rule.--Every applicant for a driver's license  
12 shall be examined for the type or class of vehicles that the  
13 applicant desires to drive. The examination shall include a  
14 physical examination, a screening test of the applicant's  
15 eyesight and a test of the applicant's ability to read and  
16 understand official traffic-control devices, knowledge of safe  
17 driving practices, including the safety considerations relevant  
18 to motorcycle operations, and the traffic laws of this  
19 Commonwealth, and shall include an actual demonstration of  
20 ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control in the  
21 operation of a motor vehicle of the type or class of vehicles  
22 for which the applicant desires a license to drive. If the  
23 department finds it necessary to further determine an  
24 applicant's fitness to operate a motor vehicle safely upon the  
25 highways the department may require one or more of the following  
26 types of examinations:

27 (1) A vision examination by an optometrist or  
28 ophthalmologist.

29 (2) A physical examination.

30 (3) A mental examination.

1       \* \* \*

2   § 3525. Protective equipment for motorcycle riders.

3       (a) Protective headgear.--Except as provided in subsection  
4   (d), no person under 18 years of age shall operate or ride upon  
5   a motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle (other than a motorized  
6   pedalcycle) unless he is wearing protective headgear which  
7   complies with standards established by the department.

8       \* \* \*

9   § 7911. Motorcycle safety education program.

10       The department shall establish a motorcycle safety education  
11   program and a motorcycle operator safety program throughout this  
12   Commonwealth. It shall approve and conduct an annual review of  
13   course material for authorized schools. It shall certify all  
14   instructors and shall include a uniform curriculum for the  
15   course of instruction and training requirements for instructors.  
16   The department shall be responsible for certifying schools to  
17   conduct approved motorcycle safety and operator courses and  
18   shall adopt such necessary rules and regulations to govern the  
19   administration of motorcycle education within this Commonwealth.

20       Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.