

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended the A-Engrossed Bill (Print B-Eng.)

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Atkinson, Burdick, Ferrioli, Metsger, Devlin

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Administrator
Jim Stenbridge, Committee Staff

Meeting Dates: 6/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires insurers offering liability, personal injury protection, or collision coverage to offer discount to motorcycle operators who have completed the motorcycle rider education course established under ORS 802.320. Specifies that only one motorcycle per operator is eligible for the discount and the motorcycle must not be used for business.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Fatality statistics among motorcycle operators who have taken the safety course
- Definition of motorcycle
- Position of insurance industry

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: For insurance policies that cover motorcycles and other vehicles, limits premium reduction to motorcycle portions only.

BACKGROUND: The motorcycle rider education course established under ORS 802.320, the TEAM OREGON Basic Rider Training (BRT) Course, is required for riders younger than 21. The course addresses such issues as effective turning, braking maneuvers, protective apparel, obstacle avoidance, traffic strategies, and maintenance. The cost of the course is about \$200. Individuals over the age of 21 must pass a motorcycle endorsement knowledge test and pass an on-cycle drive test, but are not required to complete the course.

According to the Oregon Department of Transportation, of 44,162 motor vehicle crashes reported in 2007, motorcycles were involved in only 743, less than two percent. However, of the 455 traffic fatalities within in those 2007 crashes, 51 involved motorcycles, more than 11 percent of the fatalities. According to TEAM OREGON statistics, about 90,000 motorcycle riders have taken the course since 1984, and since 2000 over half of all new driver license motorcycle endorsements have been issued to course graduates. About 80 percent of the 2007 fatalities had not taken the class.

According to the TEAM OREGON website, "Many insurance companies offer premium discounts to TEAM OREGON graduates. Discounts can range from 5% to as much as 20%, depending on the insurance company."