HB63

202988-1

By Representative Pringle

RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security

First Read: 04-FEB-20

PFD: 01/28/2020
SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, in order to obtain a Class M license to operate a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle, a person must complete a written motorcycle test or an Alabama Traffic Safety Center/Alabama Motorcycle Safety Program, Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Basic Riders Course or Basic Riders Course II.

This bill would require a person to complete a written motorcycle test and complete a motorcycle riders course in order to obtain a Class M license to operate a motorcycle.

This bill would not apply to any person authorized to operate a motorcycle before January 1, 2021.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT
Relating to motorcycles; to amend Sections 32-5A-240 and 32-12-22, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide further for the requirements to operate a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Sections 32-5A-240 and 32-12-22, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"§32-5A-240.

"(a) Subject to subsection (b), each person operating a motorcycle shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under this chapter, except as to special regulations in this article and except as to those provisions of this chapter which by their nature can have no application.

"(b) Each person operating a motorcycle on any public road, street, or highway in this state shall do all of the following:

"(1) Have successfully passed a written motorcycle test designated by the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency, and shall have a

"(2) Have a motorcycle Class M displayed on his or her driver's license along with the regular class of the license or have been issued a Class M motorcycle license.

"(3) A person may also obtain the Class M license by successfully completing a written motorcycle test designated by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency or by completing an Alabama Traffic Safety Center/Alabama Motorcycle Safety Program, Motorcycle Safety
Foundation, Basic Riders Course or Basic Rider Riders Course II, or a substantially equivalent motorcycle riders course approved by the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency.

"(c) A person 17 years of age or younger operating a motorcycle shall be subject to the operating hours, exceptions, and suspensions provided in Section 32-6-7.2.

"(d) This section does not apply to a person who has obtained a license to operate a motorcycle prior to January 1, 2021.

"§32-12-22.

"(a) A person operating a motor-driven cycle with a Class M motorcycle license with a motor-driven cycle restriction, a motorcycle Class M displayed on the person's regular license, or a Class M motorcycle license shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under Chapter 6 of this title, except as to special regulations in this article and those provisions of this chapter which by their nature can have no application.

"(b) A Class M motorcycle license with a motor-driven cycle restriction shall be issued to any person 14 years and older if the person has passed a motorcycle knowledge test designated by the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency.
"or if the individual has successfully (2) Has successfully completed an Alabama Traffic Safety Center/Alabama Motorcycle Safety Program, Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Basic Riders Course or Basic Riders Course II, or a substantially equivalent motorcycle riders course approved by the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency.

"(2)(c) A person 17 years of age or younger operating a motor-driven cycle shall be subject to the operating hours, exceptions, and suspensions provided in Section 32-6-7.2.

"(c)(d) This section and the portion of Section 32-5A-240 amended by Act 2015-223 do not apply to a person who has obtained a license to operate a motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle prior to January 1, 2016 2021."

Section 2. This act shall become effective January 1, 2021, following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.