

Senate
State of Minnesota
Eighty-Eighth Legislature S.F.Number _____

Bill Author: Mark Dallmann

Date: 5/8/2019

Official Status: Introduction and first reading

1 A bill for an act
2 relating to a new law or changing an existing law in the Minnesota Statutes.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
4 that everyone riding on a motorcycle will be required to wear a helmet. The helmet must be ANSI and/or
5 DOT approved, and it must be attached by a chinstrap. It must also fit properly and be in good condition.
6 Riders/drivers of motorcycles ages 18 and under must wear full-face helmets, and these helmets must be
7 ANSI and/or DOT approved, attached by a chinstrap and be in good condition. Drivers/riders will
8 receive one warning if they are caught driving/riding a motorcycle without a helmet-the warning will
9 apply to the owner/operator of the motorcycle in the case when a passenger is cited without wearing a
10 helmet. If a driver/rider is caught riding a motorcycle a second time without a helmet, they will be fined
11 \$250-the fine will apply to the owner/operator of the motorcycle in the case when a passenger is cited
12 without wearing a helmet. On a third infraction, the motorcycle will be impounded, the operator will
13 lose their motorcycle endorsement for one year and will be fined \$750. This bill will positively affect
14 drivers/riders of motorcycles-and their families and loved ones- as they will be more protected against
15 head injuries in the case of an accident. It will also potentially lower insurance costs as fewer people
16 will be hospitalized for serious head injuries that result from motorcycle accidents. It could negatively
17 affect law enforcement officers as they might encounter angry drivers/riders who break the law. The
18 cost for this law would be paid for by the motorcycle drivers/riders, as it would be up to them to
19 purchase the helmets. Helmets that meet ANSI and/or DOT safety standards cost between \$75 and
20 \$400. Fines for not complying with this law are outlined above, and the cost to inform people of this new
21 law will come from an increased license fee of \$2 per license to pay for print and electronic notifications.