

Section 60-6,278

Legislative findings.

The Legislature hereby finds and declares that head injuries that occur to motorcyclists and moped operators which could be prevented or lessened by the wearing of helmets are a societal problem and that the financial and emotional costs of such injuries cannot be viewed solely on a personal level. It is the intent of the Legislature to prevent injuries and fatalities which occur due to motorcycle and moped accidents and to prevent the subsequent damage to society which results due to the cost of caring for injured people, the pain and suffering which accompanies such injuries and fatalities, and the loss of productive members of society from such injuries.

Section 60-6,279

Protective helmets; required; when.

A person shall not operate or be a passenger on a motorcycle or moped on any highway in this state unless such person is wearing a protective helmet of the type and design manufactured for use by operators of such vehicles and unless such helmet is secured properly on his or her head with a chin strap while the vehicle is in motion. All such protective helmets shall be designed to reduce injuries to the user resulting from head impacts and shall be designed to protect the user by remaining on the user's head, deflecting blows, resisting penetration, and spreading the force of impact. Each such helmet shall consist of lining, padding, and chin strap and shall meet or exceed the standards established in the United States Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 218, 49 C.F.R. 571.218, for motorcycle helmets.

Section 60-6,306

Nebraska Rules of the Road; applicability to persons operating motorcycles.

Any person who operates a motorcycle shall have all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under the Nebraska Rules of the Road except for special motorcycle regulations in the rules and except for those provisions of the rules which by their nature can have no application.

Section 60-6,307

Restrictions on operating motorcycles.

(1) Any person who operates a motorcycle shall ride only upon a permanent and regular seat attached to the motorcycle. A person operating a motorcycle shall not carry any other person nor shall any other person ride on a motorcycle unless such motorcycle is designed to carry more than one person, in which event a passenger may ride upon the permanent and regular seat, if designed for two persons, or upon another seat firmly attached to the motorcycle to the rear or side of the operator.

(2) A person shall ride upon a motorcycle only while sitting astride the seat, facing forward.

(3) No person shall operate a motorcycle while carrying any package, bundle, or other article which prevents him or her from keeping both hands on the handlebars.

(4) No operator shall carry any person, nor shall any person ride, in a position that interferes with the operation or control of the motorcycle or the view of the operator.

(5) Any motorcycle which carries a passenger, other than in a sidecar or enclosed cab, shall be equipped with footrests for such passenger.

(6) No person shall operate any motorcycle with handlebars more than fifteen inches above the mounting point of the handlebars.

Section 60-6,308

Operating motorcycles on roadways laned for traffic; prohibited acts.

(1) A motorcycle shall be entitled to full use of a traffic lane of any highway, and no vehicle shall be driven in such a manner as to deprive any motorcycle of the full use of such lane, except that motorcycles may be operated two abreast in a single lane.

(2) The operator of a motorcycle shall not overtake and pass in the same lane occupied by a vehicle being overtaken.

(3) No person shall operate a motorcycle between lanes of traffic or between adjacent lines or rows of vehicles.

(4) Motorcycles shall not be operated more than two abreast in a single lane.

(5) Subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall not apply to peace officers in the performance of their official duties.

(6) No person who rides upon a motorcycle shall attach himself, herself, or the motorcycle to any other vehicle on a roadway.