



HOUSE BILL 207: Motorcycle License/Exempt Antique Scooters.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to Finance	Date:	March 13, 2017
Introduced by:	Reps. Speciale, Ford	Prepared by:	Giles Perry
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H207-CSBG-3		Howard Marsilio Staff Attorneys

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 207 (proposed committee substitute) exempts operators of motor scooters manufactured before January 1, 1960, and that meet specified engine specifications, from the requirement to have a motorcycle endorsement in addition to a driver's license.*

The proposed committee substitute corrects a typographical error in the original bill.

CURRENT LAW: "Motor scooters" are included in the definition of "motorcycles" under current State motor vehicle law, unless they meet the definition of a mopedⁱ.

A motorcycle learner's permit or motorcycle endorsement is required, in addition to a driver's license, to operate a motorcycle in the State.

To obtain a motorcycle learner's permit, an applicant must pass a motorcycle knowledge test, and, if under 18, submit proof of completion of an approved motorcycle safety rider course.

To obtain a motorcycle endorsement, an applicant must pass a motorcycle knowledge test, and provide proof of a completion of an approved motorcycle safety rider course, or, if 18 or older, pass a road testⁱⁱ.

The fee for a motorcycle endorsement is \$2.30/year. The fee for a one-year motorcycle learner's permit is \$20.

Operating a motorcycle without the proper motorcycle license endorsement is a Class 2 misdemeanorⁱⁱⁱ.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 207 exempts operators of motor scooters that meet all of the following specifications from the requirement to have a motorcycle learner's permit or motorcycle endorsement:

- Manufactured prior to January 1, 1960.
- An engine displacement that does not exceed 150 cubic centimeters piston displacement.
- Produces less than eight horsepower.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law.

ⁱ G.S. 20-4.01(27)

d. Motorcycles. – Vehicles having a saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, including autocycles, motor scooters, and motor driven bicycles, but excluding tractors and utility vehicles equipped with an additional form of device designed to transport property, three wheeled vehicles while being used by law enforcement agencies, electric assisted bicycles, and mopeds as defined in sub subdivision d1. of this subdivision.

d1. Moped. – A vehicle, other than a motor driven bicycle or electric assisted bicycle, that has two or three wheels, no external shifting device, a motor that does not exceed 50 cubic centimeters piston displacement and cannot propel the vehicle

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578

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at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour on a level surface. The motor may be powered by electricity, alternative fuel, motor fuel, or a combination of each.

ⁱⁱ G.S. 20-7(a1)

ⁱⁱⁱ G.S. 20-7(a1), G.S. 20-35