

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 257
Second Edition Engrossed 3/27/19

Short Title: Motorcycles/Face Masks. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Bumgardner.

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Transportation, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 5, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PERMIT THE USE OF A FACE MASK WHILE OPERATING A
3 MOTORCYCLE.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 14-12.11 reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 14-12.11. Exemptions from provisions of Article.

7 (a) The following are exempted from the provisions of G.S. 14-12.7, 14-12.8, 14-12.9,
8 14-12.10 and 14-12.14:

- 9 (1) Any person or persons wearing traditional holiday costumes in season;
10 (2) Any person or persons engaged in trades and employment where a mask is
11 worn for the purpose of ensuring the physical safety of the wearer, or because
12 of the nature of the occupation, trade or profession;
13 (3) Any person or persons using masks in theatrical productions including use in
14 Mardi Gras celebrations and masquerade balls;
15 (4) Persons wearing gas masks prescribed in civil defense drills and exercises or
16 emergencies; and
17 (5) Any person or persons, as members or members elect of a society, order or
18 organization, engaged in any parade, ritual, initiation, ceremony, celebration
19 or requirement of such society, order or organization, and wearing or using
20 any manner of costume, paraphernalia, disguise, facial makeup, hood,
21 implement or device, whether the identity of such person or persons is
22 concealed or not, on any public or private street, road, way or property, or in
23 any public or private building, provided permission shall have been first
24 obtained therefor by a representative of such society, order or organization
25 from the governing body of the municipality in which the same takes place,
26 or, if not in a municipality, from the board of county commissioners of the
27 county in which the same takes place.

28 Provided, that the provisions of this Article shall not apply to any preliminary meetings held
29 in good faith for the purpose of organizing, promoting or forming a labor union or a local
30 organization or subdivision of any labor union nor shall the provisions of this Article apply to
31 any meetings held by a labor union or organization already organized, operating and functioning
32 and holding meetings for the purpose of transacting and carrying out functions, pursuits and
33 affairs expressly pertaining to such labor union.

34 (b) Notwithstanding G.S. 14-12.7 and G.S. 14-12.8, a person may wear a mask for the
35 purpose of protecting the person's head, face, or head and face, when operating a motorcycle, as



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1 defined in G.S. 20-4.01. A person wearing a mask when operating a motorcycle shall remove the
2 mask during a traffic stop, including at a checkpoint or roadblock under G.S. 20-16.3A, or when
3 approached by a law enforcement officer."

4 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective December 1, 2019, and applies to offenses
5 committed on or after that date.